



February 2009  
No. 241

# Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

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## ANA SHOW - PORTLAND, OREGON

The ANA is providing a booth for the Love Token Society at the Oregon Convention Center March 13 - 15, 2009.

Rosemarie Ingenito will serve in the booth as the LTS representative. She will need help. If you will be attending the show please assist Rosemarie by devoting some time helping with the booth.

Please call her at 310-560-1567 prior to the show to coordinate times. While at the show please stop at the booth and offer assistance.

*Sid Gale*

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Ask Miss Love Token  
MISSLOVETOKEN@  
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# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

General Funds			
Balance As Of	December 5, 2008		\$4,340.58
Receipts			
	Member Dues	\$ 400.00	
	New Members	\$ 37.50	
	Book Sales (3)	\$ 102.00	
	Donations	\$ 8.50	
	Total Receipts	\$523.00	\$523.00
	Subtotal		\$4,863.58
Expenses			
	Ck# 1524 Robert Newhouse		
	Kinko's	\$ 123.61	
	Graphics	75.00	
	Postage	84.00	
	Misc. Postage	3.59	
	Total LL #240	\$ 286.20	
	Ck#1525 USPS	10.83	
	Total Expenses	\$333.10	\$333.10
Balance As Of	February 1, 2009		\$4,566.55
Book sale Escrow Fund			<u>\$340.00</u>
Balance Available to LTS			\$4,226.55
Permanent Fund 1-year certificate of deposit			\$1,254.54
Citizens Bank & Trust, Mandeville, LA 70448			
TOTAL Love Token Society Funds			\$5,481.09

New Members

#2035 Pete Kendra  
519 Terrace Dr.  
Traverse City, MI 49686

Total Number of Members - 161



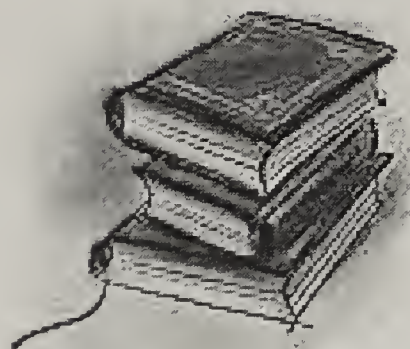
## Annual Dues were due

January 1, 2009. I request you send your \$12.50 dues when you receive this Newsletter if you have not done so. Dues for many of you have already been paid. If you are not sure about yours call 225-664-0718 or email me at [sidgale@cox.net](mailto:sidgale@cox.net)



## Books For Sale

I have some of Lloyd Entenmann's book, "Love Tokens as Engraved Coins" for sale. One book will be made available to current members of the Love Token Society at a special price - \$34.00 postpaid. Please call 225-664-0718 to order one.



Secretary/Treasurer  
Sid Gale

## JUDY'S LOVE TOKEN

SID GALE

In the December Love Letter I reported that Verl McCowan, an engraver, has joined the Love Token Society. I sent him a 1954 Franklin Half Dollar and requested that he engrave a love token to commemorate my wife Judy's birth. Here is a picture of it. The opposite side is the obverse of a 1954 Franklin Half Dollar.



In case it is difficult to see, the engraving is, "Judith Carol Ashley Dec 14<sup>th</sup>." It is still "bright and shiny." Either time or a darkening agent will tone it down.

I did learn several things in the process of having it made.

1. I have looked at and studied literally thousands of love tokens over the past 17 years. I apparently have a "mental picture" of what a love token made in the 1800's looks like. Modern engraving is quite different in appearance than what we collectors are accustomed to.

To begin with, we chose script lettering. Most love tokens in our collections were done in a "box" or Old English style lettering. The engraving is usually clean and deep compared to modern engraving. Verl's engraving is done by hand with gravers, however the script lettering that we chose was, unknowingly, a more modern style and looked modern. Verl and I discussed it and he agreed to go back over it and engrave the letters more deeply. Consider the letter style carefully. Discuss it with the engraver and specify that you are looking for the "old look," if that is what you want.

2. The love tokens in your collection are a bargain. By today's standards you got a bargain when you bought them. Most half dollars in our collections probably cost \$25.00 - \$50.00. To have one made today will cost a good bit more. I paid \$100.00 plus postage to have this one done. Why?

I decided to commemorate Judy's birthday with a love token. You can have one done to commemorate a special event such as the birth of a grandchild or a marriage. In other words, have one made for the same reasons they were made back in the 1800's. You may also want one for your love token Type Set. They just cost a little more; but, it provides a personal touch. Buying this one also makes me appreciate those in my collection a little more.

I am very happy with the love token. Verl's work meets the criteria for a love token in that it is hand engraved, was a coin in circulation at the time, and is a form of affection. He will also help you plan your love token and advise you if you are unsure of what you want. If you are interested in having one made you may contact him at 503-648-6984 or by email at [vmjewelrysvc@aol.com](mailto:vmjewelrysvc@aol.com). He has also agreed to write articles about engraving. If you have any questions or suggestions for articles please contact him.





February is synonymous with Valentine's Day and a feature on Love Tokens seems appropriate for such a day. Though Love Tokens have a relatively short history, as we measure time, the history of Valentine's Day can be traced to ancient times. The Romans celebrated a festival for lovers that they called the Feast of Lupercalia. Young people chose partners by drawing names from a box. The partners then exchanged gifts as a sign of affection. The young people often continued to enjoy one another's company long after the festival and many such courtships ended in marriage.

After Christianity had spread over much of the known world, churchmen tried to infuse a Christian meaning into what had always been a pagan festival. Pope Gelasius in 496 A.D., changed the Festival of Lupercalia on February 15<sup>th</sup> to Valentine's Day on February 14<sup>th</sup>. In spite of the Church's efforts to make Valentine's Day of religious significance, it has retained its sentimental meaning to the present time. Historians cannot agree completely on the identity of St. Valentine; there were two of them. One of them was a priest who lived in Rome during the reign of Emperor Claudius II. The Romans jailed him for aiding the Christians. People believed that he cured his jailer's daughter of blindness. About 270 A.D., he was beheaded on Palatine Hill at the site of an ancient altar to Juno. Many years later Christians named a gate in Rome, Porto Valenini, after him. The other St. Valentine was a bishop of Terni, who was persecuted for converting a Roman family to Christianity. He was beheaded in Rome about 273 A.D. It is very possible that both acts of martyrdom may be different developments of the same original account and refer only to one person.

St. Valentine's Day, as a lover's festival, has no relation to St. Valentine or to any incident in his life. These customs seem to be connected to either the pagan Roman Festival of Lupercalia, or the spring season in general. One old belief has it that the birds choose their mates on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Historians have little documented evidence of the early Valentine's Day celebrations. According to *Popular Antiquities*, published in 1877, people in England observed the holiday as early as 1446. The young people at that time chose their Valentine partners by writing the names on slips of paper and then drawing the slips from a vase.

An account of the celebration in the 1700s, describes how groups met in the homes of the gentry on the eve of Valentine's Day. After drawing lots, each young man wore his lady's name on his sleeve for a period of time. Such a custom may have been the origin of the expression; "He wears his heart on his sleeve." Love Tokens, as we know them today, were preceded by the bent and broken silver and gold coins mentioned in Shakespeare and other poets as "Love or Marriage" tokens.

Valentine's Day in the United States became popular about the time of the Civil War. That, in turn, precipitated a rise in the popularity of engraved coins as Love Tokens. Their popularity reached a climax between 1880 and 1890, when the U.S. Government stepped in and declared that defacing coins was illegal. The accepted reason for the action was that too many coins, especially dimes, had been taken out of circulation for use as Love Tokens.

The April 1882 issue of the "American Journal of Numismatics" states that, "A craze is prevalent among school girls, who beg small silver pieces of their sweethearts and friends, one side of which having been smoothed, is engraved with the initials of the giver. The greater the variety in size, or mintage, the more desirable is the necklace. A somewhat similar taste has led to a call on the mint for new ten cent pieces, to be used in making bangles, and the demand has at times exceeded the supply." Many Love Tokens were engraved by jewelers and watchmakers in local stores. A greater number were made by practicing artisans at county fairs. The simplest was a coin smoothed on one side (usually the reverse, so the date remained), and engraved with the initials or name of the giver. The more elaborate Love Tokens embodied a scene of particular importance to the couple along with the initials. The most elaborate Love Tokens of all were those that were cutout, enameled or had gold applied on a silver coin.

*By Ed Fleischmann (Numismatic Scrapbook, Feb. 1976)*



## SOUTHERN ANTIQUE COLLECTORS HEAR OF LOVETOKENS

ERNIE TURNES

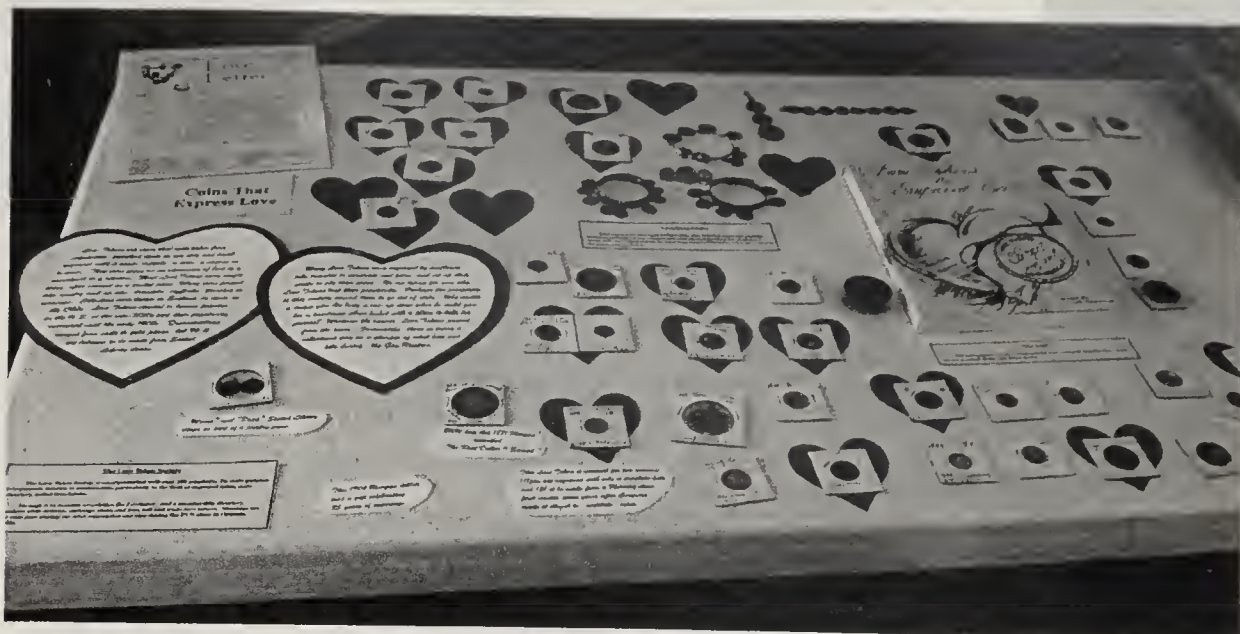
The April 2008 issue of the LoveLetter carried a story about a talk that I gave to the local antiques collectors' club here in Myrtle Beach, S.C. The subject was coin collecting, and in that talk I mentioned that I collect love tokens. Only one member had heard of love tokens. After that talk my wife and I both joined the

club and have been active members. Because of my interest in Love Tokens, I was soon asked to give a talk about them this year before Valentine's Day. That presentation was February 10 and seemed to be well received by the 33 members who were there. I told the group that my goals for the talk were (1) that they would learn something about our hobby and (2) that each of them would join our club!

There were many questions and comments during the talk, always a good sign of interest. I displayed about 50 pieces and some club members asked if I had certain initials or names on coins that they could purchase (I had previously sold pieces to two ladies in the club). I talked about the LTS and the advantages/ joys in love token collecting.

Several club members brought their own "tokens of love," but none were engraved coins. There were many forms of Valentines, often having belonged to early family members. I enjoyed giving the talk and encourage LTS members to take advantage of the opportunity when asked to speak about our hobby.

*Photo by Earnie Turnes*



## ANOTHER COLLECTOR'S EBAY EXPERIENCE ERNIE TURNES

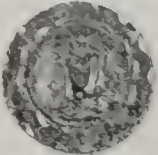
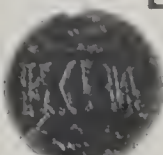





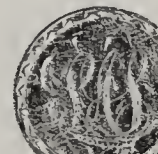










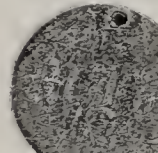





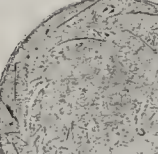






In the December issue of the Love Letter Carol Harmes (Miss Love Token) wrote of her eBay experiences. I'm sure that each of us who buys (or sells) by this means has something interesting that we could report. I've written of some of my own out-of-the-ordinary purchases in these pages before. My most recent bidding experience happened on the day that I read Carol's article.

In addition to collecting love tokens I collect US Seated Liberty half dimes. These were minted from 1837 to 1873. While searching them on eBay I came across an item in the Seated Half Dime listing described as "US Half & Dime Seated Liberty 1875 & 1883 Pinback." The listing had a photo that showed the pin attached to the larger coin's obverse with a loop attached to the rim of the smaller coin. When I took a look at the lot's detailed description I learned that neither coin is a half dime and both are love tokens. The "US Half" is an 1875 half dollar engraved MEC. The dime has CT engraved on the reverse.





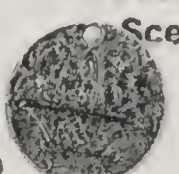
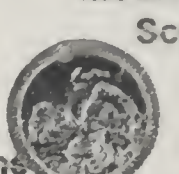





















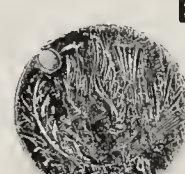


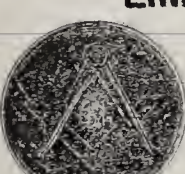











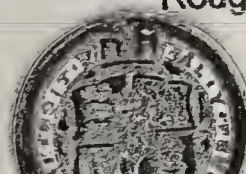





I bid on the lot and monitored its price over the next few days. I thought that my chances of winning were fairly good, as love token collectors wouldn't see it because the term love token was not in the lot's title and therefore not in the love token listing. Coin collectors (who are not also love token collectors) probably wouldn't bid because the coins were "defaced". (Don't you hate that description of love tokens?)

Toward the end of the bidding I checked and saw that I had been out-bid. I upped my maximum a few times but still didn't win, as I was outbid by a considerable amount. The lesson? You don't know where love token coins may turn up on eBay.



J-1  5c <1854> \$8.00	AW J-2  GB 3p obverse \$8.00	ECW J-3  Can 5c obverse \$12.00	HIL J-4  Can 5c obverse \$10.00	SN J-5  5c 2 sided \$12.00	Alberta G J-6  GB3p 1913 \$9.00	LG
J-7  10c 1883 \$8.00	JRC J-8  10c reverse \$8.00	JIS 18-Mar 1855 J-9  10c 2 sided \$20.00	FLD WPD J-10  10c 1877 \$10.00	LV J-11  Can 10c obverse \$10.00	WWS J-12  Can 10c obverse \$9.00	WHS
J-13  Can 10c obverse \$10.00	CPM J-14  Neth25c 1840's \$15.00	HL J-15  GB 6p 1891 \$20.00	WTF J-16  10c 1887 \$9.00	GHR J-17  10c blank \$9.00	PFL J-18  10c 1883 \$9.00	WRC
J-19  Ger20p obverse \$10.00	AF J-20  5c <1854> \$12.00	BG J-21  Can5c obverse \$8.00	JB J-22  10c 1875 \$15.00	CHM J-23  Can5c obverse \$10.00	AEF J-24  Can5c obverse \$15.00	Cap name
J-25  10c 1877 \$12.00	DFN J-26  10c 1875 \$8.00	GHB J-27  10c 1856 \$12.00	G? J-28  10c 1887 \$10.00	LS J-29  10c <1853> \$10.00	KJ J-30  10c 1872 \$15.00	HWD
J-31  10c 1884 \$15.00	MLC J-32  Can10c obverse \$10.00	SI J-33  10c 1890 \$10.00	IMK J-34  10c reverse \$15.00	EM J-35  Can 10c obverse \$9.00	A J-36  10c 1875 \$15.00	OAN
J-37  25c <1854> \$20.00	EY J-38  Fra1F obverse \$20.00	PJ J-39  25c 1859 \$20.00	AJA J-40  25c reverse \$15.00	PEC J-41  25cPin reverse \$25.00	SMJ J-42  25c reverse \$10.00	KK?
J-43  10c 1875 \$20.00	CAL J-44  10c <1854> \$15.00	NEC J-45  10c blank \$20.00	Frank J-46  10c <1853> \$15.00	ASH J-47  Can5c obverse \$15.00	JEC J-48  GB Far 1883 \$25.00	AD



J-1 Tuff name  GB 3p obverse \$15.00	J-2 HR  GB 4p 1855 \$18.00	J-3 CNUNC  GB 3p obverse \$18.00	J-4 Neuton  Can 5c obverse \$15.00	J-5 Basket Scene  GB 3p obverse \$40.00	J-6 Mountain Scene  H Dims 1856 \$35.00
J-7 B  1953 Roosevelt \$15.00	J-8 E  1946 Roosevelt \$15.00	J-9 F  1948 Roosevelt \$15.00	J-10 H  1946 Roosevelt \$15.00	J-11 J  1957 Roosevelt \$15.00	J-12 L  1956 Roosevelt \$15.00
J-13 M  1948 Roosevelt \$15.00	J-14 O  1960 Roosevelt \$15.00	J-15 T  1956 Roosevelt \$15.00	J-16 Alice  1950 Roosevelt \$20.00	J-17 Beth  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	J-18 Chris  1951 Roosevelt \$20.00
J-19 Chuck  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	J-20 Dave  1943 Mercury \$20.00	J-21 Greg  1957 Roosevelt \$20.00	J-22 KEN  1946 Roosevelt \$20.00	J-23 John  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	J-24 Mark  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00
J-25 Robert  1958 Roosevelt \$20.00	J-26 JHB Shield FEB  10c 2 sides \$20.00	J-27 BJ Horse Shoe  10c 1876 \$35.00	J-28 HJ Bird  10c 2 sides \$35.00	J-29 DH Farm Scene  10c 2 sides \$45.00	J-30 Julius Easel  10c 1882 \$35.00
J-31 Masons Emblem  0c 1853> \$30.00	J-32 Light- House WK  Can 10c obverse \$10.00	J-33 House Scene AOD  10c 1891 \$40.00	J-34 Dressed Birds HMT  10c 1877 \$55.00	J-35 Island Scene EGD  10c 2 sides \$35.00	J-36 Great Scene IH  10c 2 sides \$55.00
J-37 Annie Bird  0c 875 \$35.00	J-38 Enamel  GB 6p 1887 \$35.00	J-39 Enamel  1900 GB 1s Pin \$45.00	J-40 HorseHead WRI Jr  10c 2 sides \$55.00	J-41 Great House EMD  10c 1885 \$40.00	J-42 Obelisk Scene HL  10c 2 sides \$40.00
J-43 Enamel Rough  GB 1s 817 \$20.00	J-44 NMA  Sterling St Christop \$15.00	J-45 EMD APA  25c Pin reverse \$25.00	J-46 Cassie  25c w Rays \$30.00	J-47 G  25c Pin w Rays \$25.00	J-48 MMD 1943  25c Washington \$35.00



---

# Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse  
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.  
Manhattan, KS 66503

---

## COIN SALES

### Ordering Love Tokens

Please make checks payable to:

David Jerdee  
2631 Westview Lane NW  
Rochester, MN 55901  
email: omaha1898@peoplepc.com  
507-288-2387

In remitting, please do not forget  
to include the postage as follows:

#### Orders

up to \$ 50 - add \$3.85  
up to \$100 - add \$4.50  
up to \$150 - add \$5.00  
up to \$200 - add \$6.00  
up to \$300 - add \$7.50  
up to \$400 - add \$8.75  
OVER \$400 - add \$10.25





April 2009  
No. 242

# Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter



TECHNOLOGY, CHANGING STYLES,  
LOVE TOKENS AND THE ARTS

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## INSIDE

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BY SID GALE

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TOKEN

PG. 4 - ENGRAVER

PG. 5 - TECHNOLOGY &  
LOVE TOKENS  
BY CAROL BASTABLE

PG. 6-7 - COINS FOR  
SALE



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General Funds	February 1, 2009		
Balance As Of			\$4,566.55
Receipts			
	Member Dues	\$ 375.00	
	New Members	\$ 25.00	
	Book Sales (5)	\$ 170.00	
	Donations	\$ 1.00	
Total Receipts		\$571.00	\$571.00
	Subtotal		\$5,137.55
Expenses			
	Ck# 1526 Robert Newhouse		
	Kinko's	\$ 140.28	
	Graphics	75.00	
	Postage	84.00	
	Misc. Postage	3.89	
	Total LL #241	\$303.17	
	Ck#1527 postage/books	5.58	
	Ck#1528 postage/books	13.56	
	Invoice expenses:		
	Ck#1529 Office Depot	27.24	
	Ck#1530 Postage	25.20	
Total Expenses		\$374.75	\$374.75
Balance As Of	April 1, 2009		\$4,762.80
Book sale Escrow Fund			\$490.00
Balance Available to LTS			\$4,272.80
Permanent Fund 1-year certificate of deposit			\$1,254.54
	Citizens Bank & Trust, Mandeville, LA 70448		
TOTAL Love Token Society Funds			\$5,527.34

## New Members

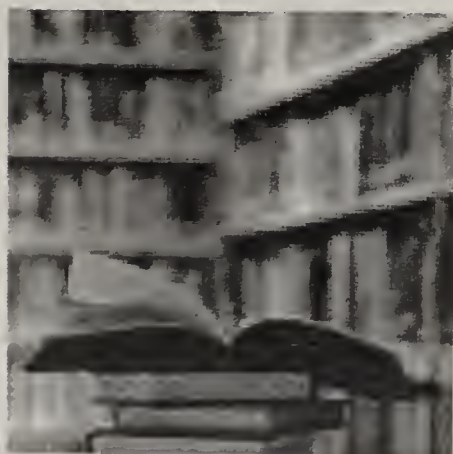
#2036 Ben Stermer  
44201 W. McClelland Dr  
Maricops, AZ 85238-8577

#2037 Richard Miller  
3285 Greenup Rd.  
Owenton, KY 40359



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January 1, 2009. I request you send your \$12.50 dues when you receive this Newsletter if you have not done so. Dues for many of you have already been paid. If you are not sure about yours call 225-664-0718 or email me at [sidgale@cox.net](mailto:sidgale@cox.net)



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Secretary/Treasurer  
Sid Gale



## PICTURES WITH LOVE TOKENS

SID GALE

As you have looked through your collection and picked up your favorite love token have you ever wondered how it may have looked on the original owner? The style of clothing and hair styles were much different than today's.

When I first started exhibiting love tokens at coin shows I began searching for pictures of people wearing them to include in the exhibit. Judy and I stop at just about every antique shop we see. I always look through boxes of old pictures searching for them. I also look online. After fifteen years of hunting I have seen only four. Unfortunately the details of the love tokens are difficult to see so you have to use a magnifying glass.



E. J. BUTLER.

RENO ART GALLERY.

Here is a picture of a beautiful young lady wearing a pin.



This was on eBay recently.  
Here is a closeup of the pin



I recently purchased  
this one and will use the  
original in my exhibits.



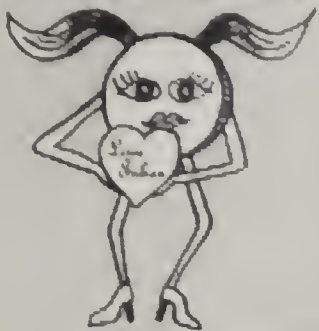
This last one is a cabinet card and is part of my collection also. The name on the pin is "Martha."

It is hard to tell if the "Martha pin" is made from a coin. I choose to believe that it is a silver dollar. If any of you have similar pictures I sure would like to see them.

*Sid Gale*



Ask Miss Love Token



Dear Miss Love Token,

*I have noticed that my Barber dime love token collection is mainly made up of script letters or monogram style letters. Do you have any input on this?*

Sincerely,

Late Date Love Token Collector

Louisiana

**Dear Late Date Love Token Collector,**

The reason for this is simply that you are collecting later date love tokens and styles change. The Art Nouveau period from 1890 to 1905 is characterized by scrolling, free flowing organic lines. The rigidity of the previously used, planned out, overlapping block letters, although decorative, were in contrast to the new aesthetics. Script letters and monograms with their loopy curvilinear form are in character with the Art Nouveau style.

At one time I wondered why many of the gold love tokens were so much plainer than their dime counterparts. Since the coins are so much more valuable, why spare expense with a simple engraving? I finally realized that many of these gold coins must have been made later than the dimes of the 1870s and 1880s.

I have mentioned on previous occasions how jewelry styles changed in the 1890s and silver was looked down on as lower class. I believe many gold love tokens were made post 1890 by the wealthier class and during this time the Art Nouveau script and monogram style dominated. And one also has to wonder about those love token Liberty nickels that are often gold plated. Were these the alternative for the less well-to-do? Once gold plated they could easily pass for a five dollar gold piece. Even three cent nickel and Indian head cent love tokens have been gold plated. Liberty seated dimes are not often plated and that may be because they do not have a portrait. An Indian cent with gold applied would look similar to a 2 ½ dollar gold Indian and the three cent would be similar to a 2 ½ dollar Liberty coin.

Among your late date Barber dimes you may also have some with a very simple block style placed in a row as opposed to the earlier overlapping form. These are indicative of Art Deco – bold, simple, and modern. This style was popular in the 1920s and is rather late for love tokens, but a few love tokens were made in this style.

Sincerely,

Miss Love Token

Hello fellow LTS enthusiasts,

My name is Verl Kit Carson McCown, named after both of my grandfathers, the first name, Verl, and middle name, Carson, with Kit being named after the frontiersman who helped settled the west. My last name is spelled and pronounced as the word “town” only with a “C” and is not spelled with an “a” or an “e” between the “w” and the “n” at the end, as so many make this mistake.

I have been a hand engraver since 1995. Although my work has been given excellent ratings for quality and accuracy, some prospective customers express concern that the fee of \$5.00 per letter for slant script, upright script and simple block lettering is expensive, and even give me a hard time for the prices I charge for more illustrious lettering designs and/or pictorials.

If you compare my prices to machine engraving that is done for between \$0.75 to \$1.50 per letter, then compare this to Tiffany Co.’s average price for the same lettering styles, you will see a huge difference. Tiffany charges \$15.00 per letter for inside a ring. Any engraving is considered to be a specialty and can cost upwards of \$25.00 per letter. An engraver/jeweler/watchmaker in the early 1900s charged \$0.05 per letter for comparable lettering styles, and up to \$10.00 for a script 3-letter monogram. My charge is \$100.00 and Tiffany’s can charge up to \$300.00 for the same work.

Each engraved coin is a piece of personalized jewelry, just as an engraved ring, bracelet, watch or other piece of jewelry. I engrave items of jewelry and coins because out of every piece of jewelry a person has in their jewelry box, the items that are engraved are going to be passed down as heirlooms, whereas the other pieces will either be sold or given out to other members of the family. It’s the engraved item that is going to have the message of meaning for whoever receives it next and that piece is usually kept in the family for generations.

I hope this helps explain the personal value and reason for the cost of the tokens we collect today. People were and are willing to pay whatever the cost to give their special loved ones something to always remember them by. Love tokens are so much more than a coin with letters on it. It’s a piece of love we can hold in our hand and next to our heart.

Verl Kit Carson McCown



Today photography is taken for granted, but before instant images, oil or egg tempera painting was the main way to create an image. Portraiture was done on both a grand scale for the home and also in miniature. A small picture could travel with a person much like a photograph in a wallet today. Miniature portraits were popular in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, and many were set in silver or gilded brass to be worn as jewelry.

Sentimental mementos were part of the Victorian culture. Miniature portraits, locks of hair, and love tokens could be carried close and cherished. Love tokens were more affordable, readily available and thus were the better economical choice over miniature paintings. Everything, including jewelry, watchcases, and silverware was hand engraved during this period; and finding an engraver was not a problem.

It is a widely held idea that love tokens ceased production with the coin mutilation act of 1909, but the ending started long before then. The last great wave of love tokens was during the Columbian Exposition (1893) and practically ceased by 1900. The mutilation laws were more about altering coins and then reintroducing them into circulation, which would deter those who tried to change money for gain, like gold plating nickels to pass them off as five dollar gold pieces (Racketeer nickels) or changing the denominations. Love tokens were affected more by changing fashions and technology.

The production of merchandise was mechanized during the industrial revolution and hand artisans began to suffer. It was difficult to compete with the lower costs of machine made items. Crafts guilds were started in order to try to preserve hand craftsmanship. Although many people think hand engraving died out because of the invention of the machine engraver with a diamond tipped stylus, this really did not affect the craft of engraving greatly until the 1940's and 1950's. During this period there was an overlapping of both hand and machine engraving but by the 1970's the machine had won.

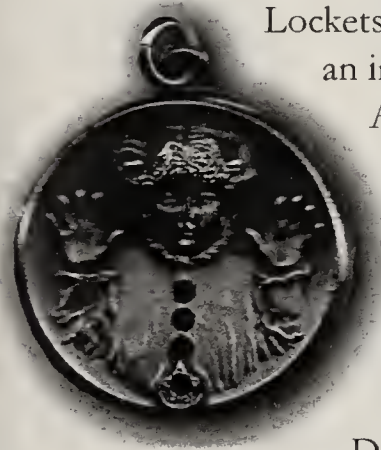
Photography, fashion, and technology played the greatest part in the demise of the love token. By the 1890s increased production methods made silver jewelry more available to the masses, and silver was then considered *déclassé* and undesirable. The upper classes preferred yellow gold and there were alternatives like gold shell (gold overlay) for those with a smaller pocketbook. Yellow gold

Locket became highly popular from 1890 to about 1915. They were generally round and from an inch and a quarter to two inches in size. Many were plain, some had stones, but the fanciest had Art Nouveau repousse designs. Often they were engraved with monograms with very scrolling intertwined letters. This style embodied the Art Nouveau aesthetics of naturalistic free flowing lines reminiscent of vines and asymmetrical design. Engraving did not cease, it just transferred to a new host: the locket. Technology laid the way for the popularity of the locket.


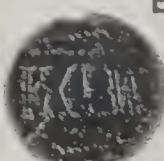




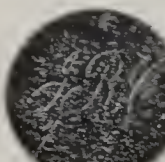


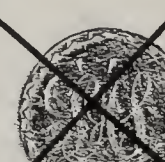

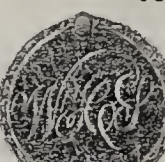


















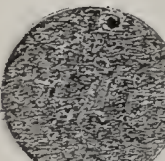



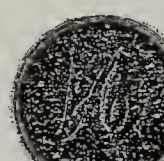




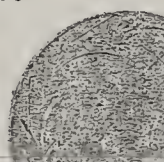








The possibility of photography was being theorized and developed in the 1820s and 1830's, but the earliest commercial portrait photographs were popularized in the 1840s.

Daguerreotypes (silver coated copper plates), tintypes (really iron or steel plates), and glass photographic plates led the way to modern photography. The real breakthrough came in 1884 when George Eastman developed a dry gel used on both film and paper, completely replacing the original photographic plate technology. He introduced the Eastman Kodak camera in 1888 and the Kodak Brownie in 1901. Subsequently photography was mass marketed and available to everyone. It is no wonder lockets became popular mementos to hold these photos.





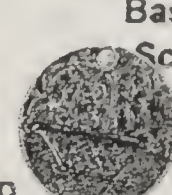
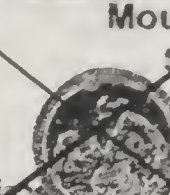









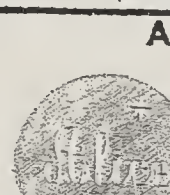
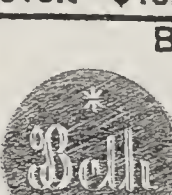
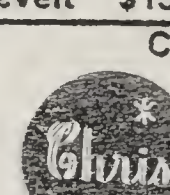
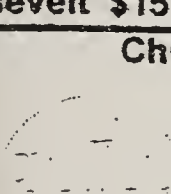
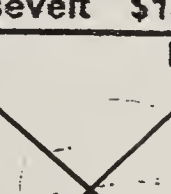
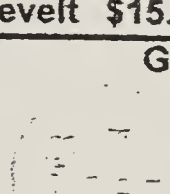
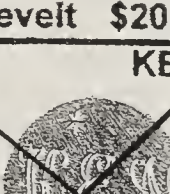
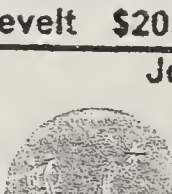
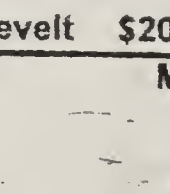
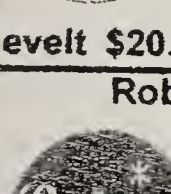
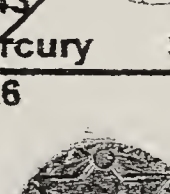
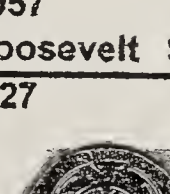
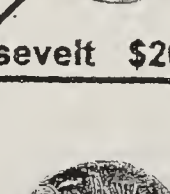
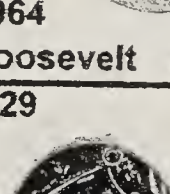
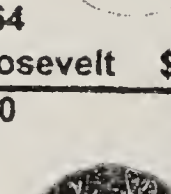
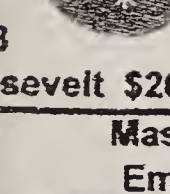
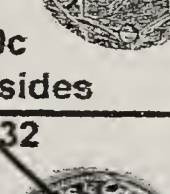
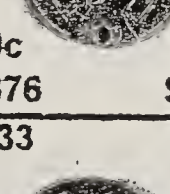
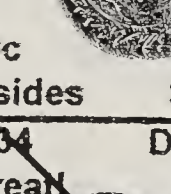
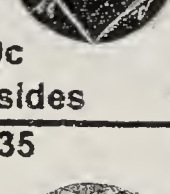
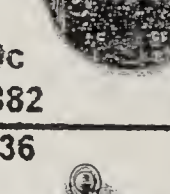
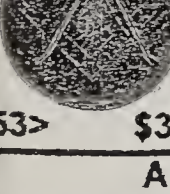
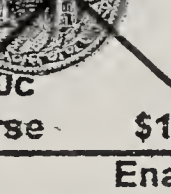
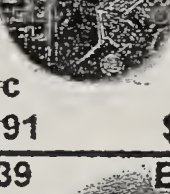
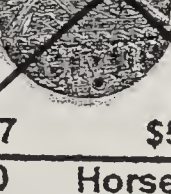
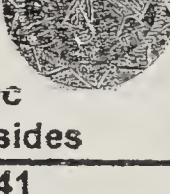
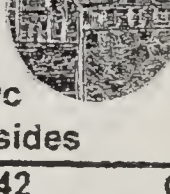
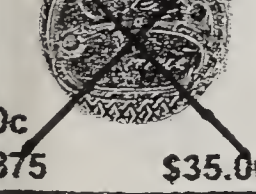
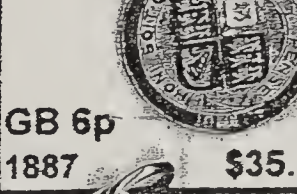
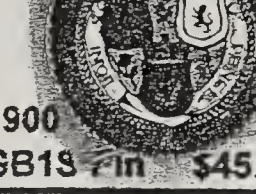
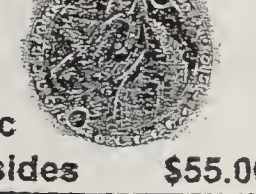
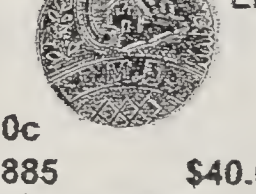
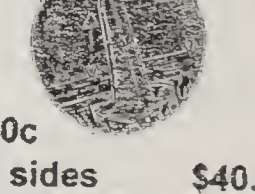
Change is inevitable. One can like it or not, but it is unavoidable. History books of art and culture showcase some wonderful styles influenced by events. With change comes the desire by collectors to hold onto a bit of the past, to cherish it, and in a sense, immortalize it. Collectors serve an important role as custodians of history. Whether one collects love tokens, lockets, or photography, all are important either stylistically, artistically, technologically, or sentimentally to those who cherish them.





J-1  5c 1854 AW \$8.00	J-2  GB 3p obverse ECW \$8.00	J-3  Can 5c obverse HIL \$12.00	J-4  Can 5c obverse SN \$10.00	J-5  5c 2 sided Alberta G \$12.00	J-6  GB3p 1913 LG \$9.00
J-7  10c 1883 JRC \$8.00	J-8  10c reverse JIS 18-Mar 1855 \$8.00	J-9  10c 2 sided FLD WPD \$20.00	J-10  10c 1877 LV \$10.00	J-11  Can 10c obverse WWS \$10.00	J-12  Can 10c obverse WHS \$9.00
J-13  Can 10c obverse CPM \$10.00	J-14  Neth25c 1840's HL \$15.00	J-15  GB 6p 1891 WTF \$20.00	J-16  10c 1887 GHR \$9.00	J-17  10c blank PFL \$9.00	J-18  10c 1883 WRC \$9.00
J-19  Ger20p obverse AF \$10.00	J-20  5c <1854> BG \$12.00	J-21  Can5c obverse JB \$8.00	J-22  10c 1875 CHM \$15.00	J-23  Can5c obverse AEF \$10.00	J-24  Can5c obverse Cap name \$15.00
J-25  10c 1877 DFN \$12.00	J-26  10c 1876 GHB \$8.00	J-27  10c 1856 G? \$12.00	J-28  10c 1887 LS \$10.00	J-29  10c <1853> KJ \$10.00	J-30  10c 1872 HWD \$15.00
J-31  10c 1884 MLC \$15.00	J-32  Can10c obverse SI \$10.00	J-33  10c 1890 IMK \$10.00	J-34  10c reverse EM \$15.00	J-35  Can 10c obverse A \$9.00	J-36  10c 1875 OAN \$15.00
J-37  5c 1854> EY \$20.00	J-38  Fra1F obverse PJ \$20.00	J-39  25c 1859 AJA \$20.00	J-40  25c reverse PEC \$15.00	J-41  25cPin reverse SMJ \$25.00	J-42  25c reverse KK? \$10.00
J-43  0c 875 CAL \$20.00	J-44  10c <1854> NEC \$15.00	J-45  10c blank Frank \$20.00	J-46  10c <1853> ASH \$15.00	J-47  Can5c obverse JEC \$15.00	J-48  GB Far 1883 AD \$25.00



J-1 Tuff name  GB 3p obverse \$15.00	J-2  GB 4p 1855 \$18.00	HR J-3 CNUNC  GB 3p obverse \$18.00	J-4 CNUNC  Can 5c obverse \$15.00	Neuton J-5  GB 3p obverse \$40.00	Basket Scene J-6  H Dime 1856 \$35.00	Mountain Scene
J-7  1953 Roosevelt \$15.00	B J-8  1946 Roosevelt \$15.00	E J-9  1948 Roosevelt \$15.00	F J-10  1946 Roosevelt \$15.00	H J-11  1957 Roosevelt \$15.00	J J-12  1956 Roosevelt \$15.00	L
<del>J-13 M  1948 Roosevelt \$15.00</del>	M J-14  1960 Roosevelt \$15.00	O J-15  1956 Roosevelt \$15.00	T J-16  1950 Roosevelt \$20.00	Alice J-17  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	Beth J-18  1951 Roosevelt \$20.00	Chris
Chuck J-19  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	Daye J-20  1943 Mercury \$20.00	Greg J-21  1957 Roosevelt \$20.00	KEN J-22  1946 Roosevelt \$20.00	John J-23  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	Mark J-24  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	
Robert J-25  1958 Roosevelt \$20.00	JHB Shield FEB J-26  10c 1876 \$35.00	BJ Horse Shoe J-27  10c 1876 \$35.00	HJ Bird J-28  10c 1877 \$55.00	DH Farm Scene J-29  10c 1882 \$35.00	Julius Easel J-30  10c 1882 \$35.00	
Masons Emblem J-31  10c 1853 \$30.00	<del>J-32 Light- House WK  Can 10c obverse \$10.00</del>	House Scene AOD J-33  10c 1891 \$40.00	<del>J-34 Dressed Birds HMT  10c 1877 \$55.00</del>	Island Scene EGD J-35  10c 1885 \$40.00	Great Scene IH J-36  10c 1885 \$40.00	
<del>J-37 Annie Bird  0c 875 \$35.00</del>	Enamel J-38  GB 6p 1887 \$35.00	Enamel J-39  1900 GB 1s pin \$45.00	HorseHead WRI Jr J-40  10c 1885 \$40.00	Great House EMD J-41  10c 1885 \$40.00	Obelisk Scene HL J-42  10c 1885 \$40.00	
Enamel Rough J-43  GB 1s 817 \$20.00	NMA J-44  Stern St Christop \$15.00	EMD APA J-45  25c Pin reverse \$25.00	Cassie J-46  25c w Rays \$30.00	G J-47  25c Pin w Rays \$25.00	<del>J-48 MMD 1943  25c Washington \$35.00</del>	



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Love  
Love Token Society Newsletter  
Letter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse  
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.  
Manhattan, KS 66503

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## COIN SALES

### Ordering Love Tokens

Please make checks payable to:

David Jerdee  
2631 Westview Lane NW  
Rochester, MN 55901  
email: omaha1898@peoplepc.com  
507-288-2387

In remitting, please do not forget  
to include the postage as follows:

#### Orders

up to \$ 50 - add \$3.85  
up to \$100 - add \$4.50  
up to \$150 - add \$5.00  
up to \$200 - add \$6.00  
up to \$300 - add \$7.50  
up to \$400 - add \$8.75  
OVER \$400 - add \$10.25







*Doris*



June 2009  
No. 243

# Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

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## LOVE TOKENS



IN OLD PHOTOGRAPHS

SEE PAGE 4

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(785) 539-1831  
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Ask Miss Love Token  
MISSLOVETOKEN@  
VERIZON.NET




# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

General Funds			
Balance As Of	April 1, 2009		\$4,762.80
Receipts			
	Member Dues	\$575.00	
	New Members	0.00	
	Book Sales (5)	136.00	
	Donations	2.50	
Total Receipts		\$713.50	\$713.50
	Subtotal		\$5,476.30
Expenses			
	Ck# 1531 Robert Newhouse		
	Kinko's	\$ 140.28	
	Graphics	75.00	
	Postage	126.00	
	Misc. Postage	5.89	
	Total LL #242	\$347.17	
	Ck#1532 postage/books	12.00	
Total Expenses		\$359.17	\$359.17
Balance As Of	June 1, 2009		\$5,117.13
Book sale Escrow Fund			\$610.00
Balance Available to LTS			\$4,507.13
Permanent Fund Capital One Bank, Denham Springs, LA			\$1,418.00
TOTAL Love Token Society Funds			\$5,925.13

Membership: 162

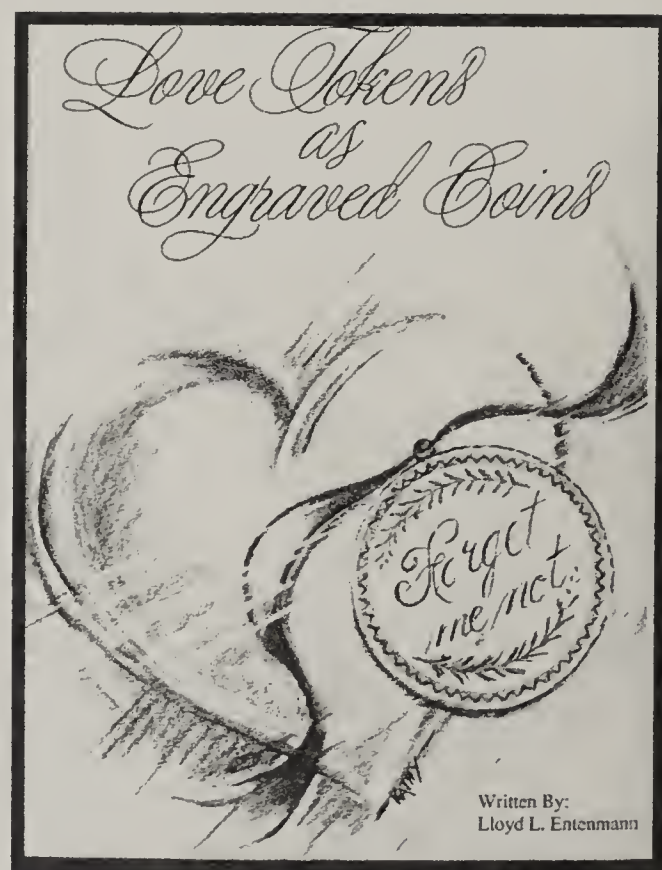
Secretary/Treasurer  
Sid Gale



**Annual Dues** were due January 1, 2009. I request you send your \$12.50 dues when you receive this Newsletter if you have not done so. Dues for many of you have already been paid. If you are not sure about yours call 225-664-0718 or email me at [sidgale@cox.net](mailto:sidgale@cox.net)

## Books For Sale

I have some of Lloyd Entenmann's book, "Love Tokens as Engraved Coins" for sale. One book will be made available to current members of the Love Token Society at a special price - \$34.00 postpaid. Please call 225-664-0718 to order one.





By Carol Bastable

One often wonders about the person who originally owned a love token. Why was it made and did it have special meaning or a personal story? There is a romance in thinking about the past. Through the magic of photography we can return briefly to that time and get a glimmer of it. A trip to an antique store, antique show, or even grandma's attic may yield a trove of Victorian photographs.

In photographs we can see clothing fashion, hairstyles, and even jewelry design. Of greatest interest to love token collectors is finding pictures of jewelry that appear to be love tokens. This sounds great, but it is like looking for a needle in a haystack. Such photographs are far rarer than the love tokens themselves.

In the U.S., engraved coins first came on the scene in small numbers during the civil war. Looking for love token jewelry on tin types of the period is not productive. Few people wore love tokens in this earliest time and jewelry is not really visible because there are gold painted accents dabbed over any existing jewelry. They could be wearing anything. A cameo, locket, or love token would all look the same, just a blob of gold.



It is the brown sepia-toned photos from the late Victorian period that yield details of love token jewelry. The heyday for love token production was the late 1870's through the 1880's and into the early 1890's and corresponds with the dates of this photography. Stickpins are the easiest to find and, surprisingly, were generally worn by women. Gentleman wore studs in the lapels of a suit jackets, usually either initials or a fraternal organization emblem. Finding other types of jewelry is far more challenging.



Photographs of bracelets are exceptionally rare.

Many Victorian pictures were portraits, and others were group photos where images are too small to show details. Some types of love token jewelry that are scarce to begin with are virtually impossible to find in photos. Cluster triangle-shaped pins and love token necklaces of coins strung end to end are examples.

A love token bar pin photo sold on ebay about ten years ago for \$75. The price is reflective of rarity and the demand from collectors. At antique stores or shows, common simple Victorian photos will normally run from \$2-\$10 each and occasionally \$15 from higher priced dealers. Finding a love token

photograph at these prices is great, but prepare to spend a lot of time in the hunt. With luck, a very active antiquer might find just one a year and spend countless hours in the process.

Carol Bastable



*\*The Love letter will be featuring these photos over the next few issues, so if anyone has love token vintage photos please share them and send the images to the editor.*





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## FREDRIK AND DORIS LIBERTY SEATED DIMES REVISITED: EUROPEAN IMMIGRANTS FREDERIK AND DORA GASSHOFF?

BY GERRY FORTIN



*Frederick*



*Doris*

In mid April 2009, I decided to once again feature the beautiful Fredrik and Doris engraved Liberty Seated dimes on the [www.seateddimevarieties.com](http://www.seateddimevarieties.com) message board to solicit additional information towards another step in solving the mystery surrounding their engravings. The Liberty Seated dime pair was first published in the June 2007 E-Gobrecht and began the speculation on the origins of the engravings; who were Fredrick and Doris and what was the significance of their names being engraved in cursive lettering on San Francisco minted Seated dimes struck in 1861 and 1862? To attract attention to the two dimes and to stimulate discussions, I first decided to use the message board polling option and asked a simple question, "What is the fair market value for Fredrik and Doris sold as a pair only?" This is a bit of a diversion from my main goal but the results are worth mentioning in this article. Given the potential for historical

significance of the dime's coupled nature and their state of preservation, I believe the coins would be valued at more than typical "love token" pricing levels. Before revealing the board member opinion, one has to consider the strictly original condition of each dime and the fact that a reasonable assigned grade for wear would be AU55 or there about without the engraving.

The polling results revealed a broad range of value opinions as follows with six individuals believing that Fredrik and Doris were worth \$750 or less while another six individuals offered that the pair were worth \$1,500 or more.

Less than \$500 – 3 votes

\$500 – 1 vote

\$750 – 2 votes

\$1000

\$1500 – 3 votes

More than \$1,500 – 3 votes

The results were worthy of note and validated the old statement that "beauty is in the eye of the beholder." But the true goal of the posting strived to uncover more information leading to a theory for the individuals at the heart of the engravings and to confirm their presence in San Francisco. Message board members were asked for help with the research and the results were short of incredible. Tony Barreca and Tim (Ziggy29) took the challenge and immediately started offering a research methodology and checking online information sources to solve the mystery. Tony commented that "there was a pretty substantial community of northern Europeans in the Bay Area by the 1860s. Many of them came out 10 years earlier to sell to the gold miners and those who followed them. San Francisco was by far the most important urban center on the West Coast. The mint, after all, opened in 1856 (or was it 55?), only 7 years after the start of the Gold Rush. The scenario I suggested is, I think, pretty reasonable. But reasonable is a good distance from probable.

I wonder how one gets access to whatever mint records still exist? I wouldn't be surprised if the California Historical Society wouldn't make sense as a next step. I would send them a letter, posing them with

*continued on pg.5*



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the problem of the identity of Fredrik and Doris, "a numismatic mystery."

Within hours, Tim reports, "Looking at Census information, the closest thing I could find was a Frederik Gasshoff who was married to a woman named Dora in the 1870 Census in San Francisco. That seems farfetched for a number of reasons, but I have struck out in trying to find young siblings named Fredrik and Doris in any Census information in California in 1860, 1870 or 1880."

Two days later on April 20, noted numismatic author Len Augsburger (Coinosaurus) offers a strong opinion that Fredrik and Doris were most likely married since the two dimes were saved as a pair and that further research should be done under that assumption. He further comments that, "I'm inclined to think that Fredrik was not a San Francisco mint employee - if he had been I would expect the two coins to be from the same year. Furthermore love tokens like this are ubiquitous for the period and have no necessary relation to goings on in the mint. The 1870 census is the best place to look, but with these foreign names mi-spellings are all over the place. Thus, Tim's note above may be closer than he thinks - especially because the couple he cites was located in SF & because these are high grade coins - very unusual for 1860s silver from SF. The next thing to check would be the SF city directories for the period and see if Mr. Gasshoff's first name is spelled differently there. These should be on microfilm at the Los Angeles library, if anyone cares to make a side trip during the ANA. Some city directories list spouses, some don't. Of course, even if you find a Fredrik and Doris Gasshoff, that can't be a positive identification, although I would call it "very likely" - sometimes that's the best you can do." Later that day I followed up on Len's comment and searched the online 1870 San Francisco census records and reported to the message board the following, "I searched ancestry.com through the 1870 San Francisco census and confirmed that Frederik and Dora Gasshoff are listed. More importantly, ancestry.com estimated the birth year of Frederik to be about 1821 and for Dora, about 1823. Remember that the two dimes are engraved 1861 - Fredrik and 1862 - Doris. Could the dimes be a commemorative (present) for their individual 40th birthdays?"


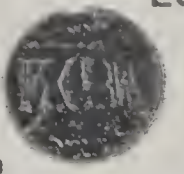




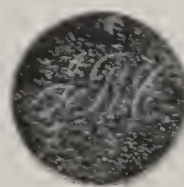


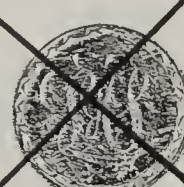




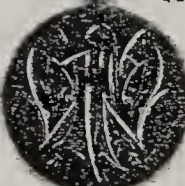


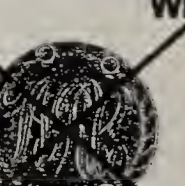



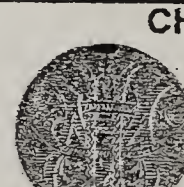
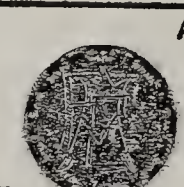
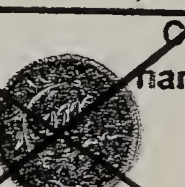



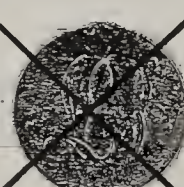


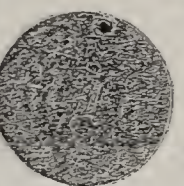








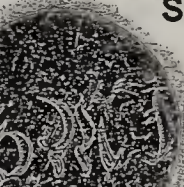

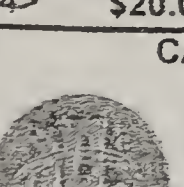
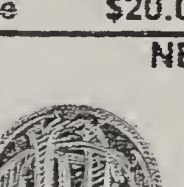
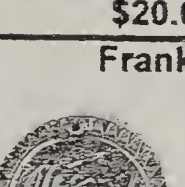
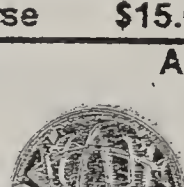
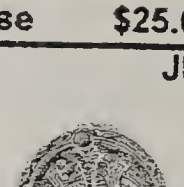
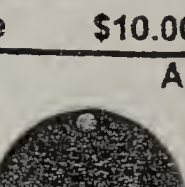
Tony and Ziggy closed out the research on April 21 with these additional comments. Tony wrote, "Also, it's possible that "Doris" in an Anglicization of the more Germanic-sounding "Dora." Dora could be her "given name," and therefore the name mentioned in the Census records, but by her late 30s/early 40s, she could have adopted "Doris" to fit in better here."

Ziggy wrote, "As for national origin of the couple in question, the 1870 Census shows Frederik Gasshoff as born in Prussia, and Dora in Hamburg. His occupation in 1870 was carpenter. It looks like they were reasonably well-to-do (but not "wealthy") based on the listed value of their estate. They had five children, the oldest of which was 14. All were born in California, so they were in California by 1856." One week after the original post, the message board community had collectively offered a credible explanation that Frederik and Dora Gasshoff were the two European immigrants behind the engraved Fredrik and Doris names. Working backwards, I easily learned that the dimes were part of a Heritage auction in 2002 but then the trail becomes cold. There remains a substantial information gap between 1870 and 2002 but knowing that Fredrik and Doris were husband and wife with five children born in California is substantial progress in a short period of time.


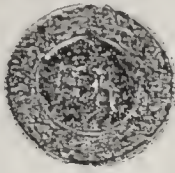


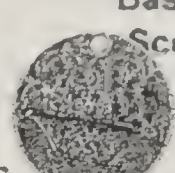
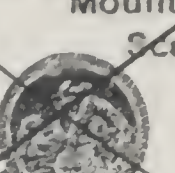
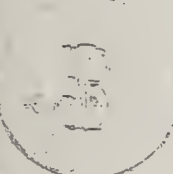





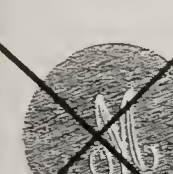




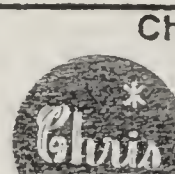
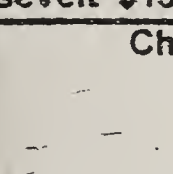
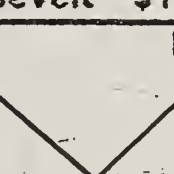
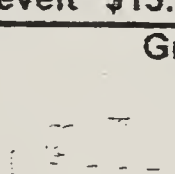
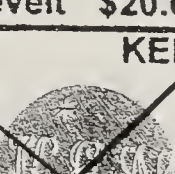
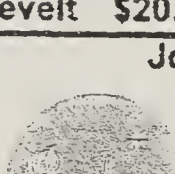
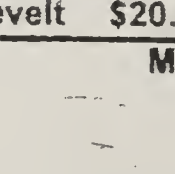
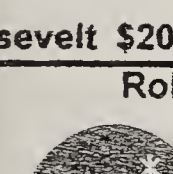
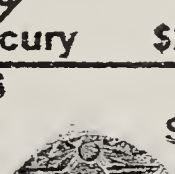
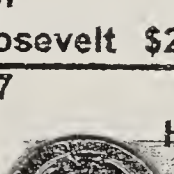
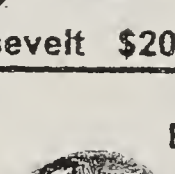
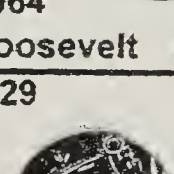
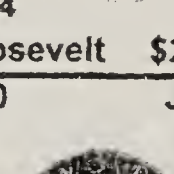
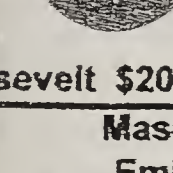
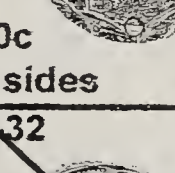
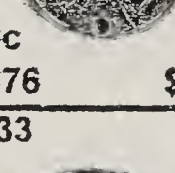
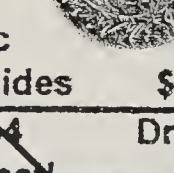
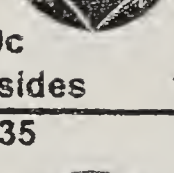
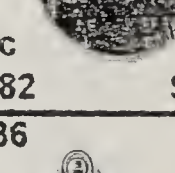
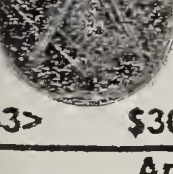
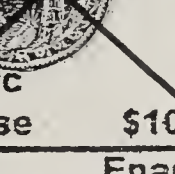
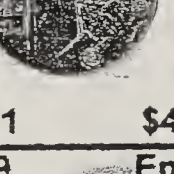
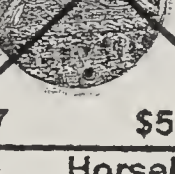
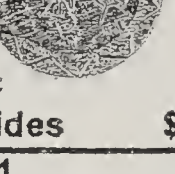
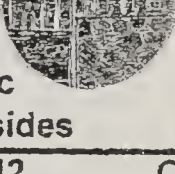
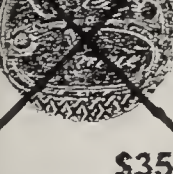
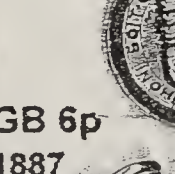

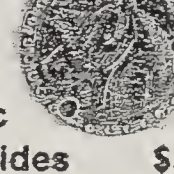


As Always, Happy Hunting...

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The Electronic Newsletter of the LIBERTY SEATED COLLECTORS CLUB  
2009 Volume 5, Issue 6, June 2009 (Whole#52) Liberty Seated Collectors Club*



J-1  1854 \$8.00	AW J-2  GB 3p obverse \$8.00	ECW J-3  Can 5c obverse \$12.00	HIL J-4  Can 5c obverse \$10.00	SN J-5  5c 2 sided \$12.00	Alberta G J-6  GB3p 1913 \$9.00	LG
J-7  10c 1883 \$8.00	JRC J-8  10c reverse \$8.00	JIS 18-Mar 1855 \$8.00	J-9  10c 2 sided \$20.00	FLD WPD J-10  10c 1877 \$10.00	LV J-11  Can 10c obverse \$10.00	WWS J-12  Can 10c obverse \$9.00
J-13  Can 10c obverse \$10.00	CPM J-14  Neth 25c 1840's \$15.00	HL J-15  GB 6p 1891 \$20.00	WTF J-16  10c 1887 \$9.00	GHR J-17  10c blank \$9.00	PFL J-18  10c 1883 \$9.00	WRC
J-19  Ger 20p obverse \$10.00	AF J-20  5c <1854> \$12.00	BG J-21  Can 5c obverse \$8.00	JB J-22  10c 1875 \$15.00	CHM J-23  Can 5c obverse \$10.00	AEF J-24  Can 5c obverse \$15.00	Cap name
J-25  10c 1877 \$12.00	DFN J-26  10c 1875 \$8.00	GHB J-27  10c 1856 \$12.00	G? J-28  10c 1887 \$10.00	LS J-29  10c <1853> \$10.00	KJ J-30  10c 1872 \$15.00	HWD
J-31  10c 1884 \$15.00	MLC J-32  Can 10c obverse \$10.00	SI J-33  10c 1890 \$10.00	IMK J-34  10c reverse \$15.00	EM J-35  Can 10c obverse \$9.00	A J-36  10c 1875 \$15.00	OAN
J-37  5c <1854> \$20.00	EY J-38  Fra 1F obverse \$20.00	PJ J-39  25c 1859 \$20.00	AJA J-40  25c reverse \$15.00	PEC J-41  25c Pin reverse \$25.00	SMJ J-42  25c reverse \$10.00	KK?
J-43  0c 875 \$20.00	CAL J-44  10c <1854> \$15.00	NEC J-45  10c blank \$20.00	Frank J-46  10c <1853> \$15.00	ASH J-47  Can 5c obverse \$15.00	JEC J-48  GB Far 1883 \$25.00	AD



J-1 Tuff name  GB 3p obverse \$15.00	J-2  GB 4p 1855 \$18.00	HR J-3 CNUNC  GB 3p obverse \$18.00	J-4 CNUNC  Can 5c obverse \$15.00	Neuton J-5  GB 3p obverse \$40.00	Basket Scene J-6  H Dime 1856 \$35.00
J-7  1953 Roosevelt \$15.00	<del>J-8  1946 Roosevelt \$15.00</del>	<del>J-9  1948 Roosevelt \$15.00</del>	F J-10  1946 Roosevelt \$15.00	H J-11  1957 Roosevelt \$15.00	J J-12  1956 Roosevelt \$15.00
<del>J-13  1948 Roosevelt \$15.00</del>	M J-14  1960 Roosevelt \$15.00	O J-15  1956 Roosevelt \$15.00	T J-16  1950 Roosevelt \$20.00	Alice J-17  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	Beth J-18  1951 Roosevelt \$20.00
Chuck J-19  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	Daye J-20  1943 Mercury \$20.00	Greg J-21  1957 Roosevelt \$20.00	KEN J-22  1946 Roosevelt \$20.00	John J-23  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00	Mark J-24  1964 Roosevelt \$20.00
Robert J-25  1958 Roosevelt \$20.00	JHB Shield FEB J-26  10c 2 sides \$20.00	BJ Horse Shoe J-27  10c 1876 \$35.00	HJ Bird J-28  10c 2 sides \$35.00	DH Farm Scene J-29  10c 2 sides \$45.00	Julius Easel J-30  10c 1882 \$35.00
Masons Emblem J-31  10c <1853> \$30.00	Light- House WK J-32  Can 10c obverse \$10.00	House Scene AOD J-33  10c 1891 \$40.00	Dressed Birds HMT J-34  10c 1877 \$55.00	Island Scene EGD J-35  10c 2 sides \$35.00	Great Scene IH J-36  10c 2 sides \$55.00
Annie Bird J-37  10c 1875 \$35.00	Enamel J-38  GB 6p 1887 \$35.00	Enamel J-39  1900 GB 1s pin \$45.00	HorseHead WRI Jr J-40  10c 2 sides \$55.00	Great House EMD J-41  10c 1885 \$40.00	Obelisk Scene HL J-42  10c 2 sides \$40.00
Enamel Rough J-43  GB 1s 1817 \$20.00	NMA J-44  Stern St Christop \$15.00	EMD APA J-45  25c pin reverse \$25.00	Cassie J-46  25c w Rays \$30.00	G J-47  25c pin w Rays \$25.00	MMD 1943 J-48  25c Washington \$35.00



---

Love  
Love Token Society Newsletter  
Letter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse  
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.  
Manhattan, KS 66503

---

## COIN SALES

### Ordering Love Tokens

Please make checks payable to:

David Jerdee  
2631 Westview Lane NW  
Rochester, MN 55901  
email: omaha1898@peoplepc.com  
507-288-2387



In remitting, please do not forget  
to include the postage as follows:  
Orders

up to \$ 50 - add \$3.85  
up to \$100 - add \$4.50  
up to \$150 - add \$5.00  
up to \$200 - add \$6.00  
up to \$300 - add \$7.50  
up to \$400 - add \$8.75  
OVER \$400 - add \$10.25

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# Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter



## INSIDE

PG. 2 - FINANCIAL  
REPORT &  
MEMBERSHIP

PG. 3 - BILL COE'S  
AMAZING 1933  
NICKEL

PG. 4 - WW II LOVE  
TOKENS

PG. 5 - LOVE TOKENS  
IN OLD PHOTOS  
- TOM CASPER

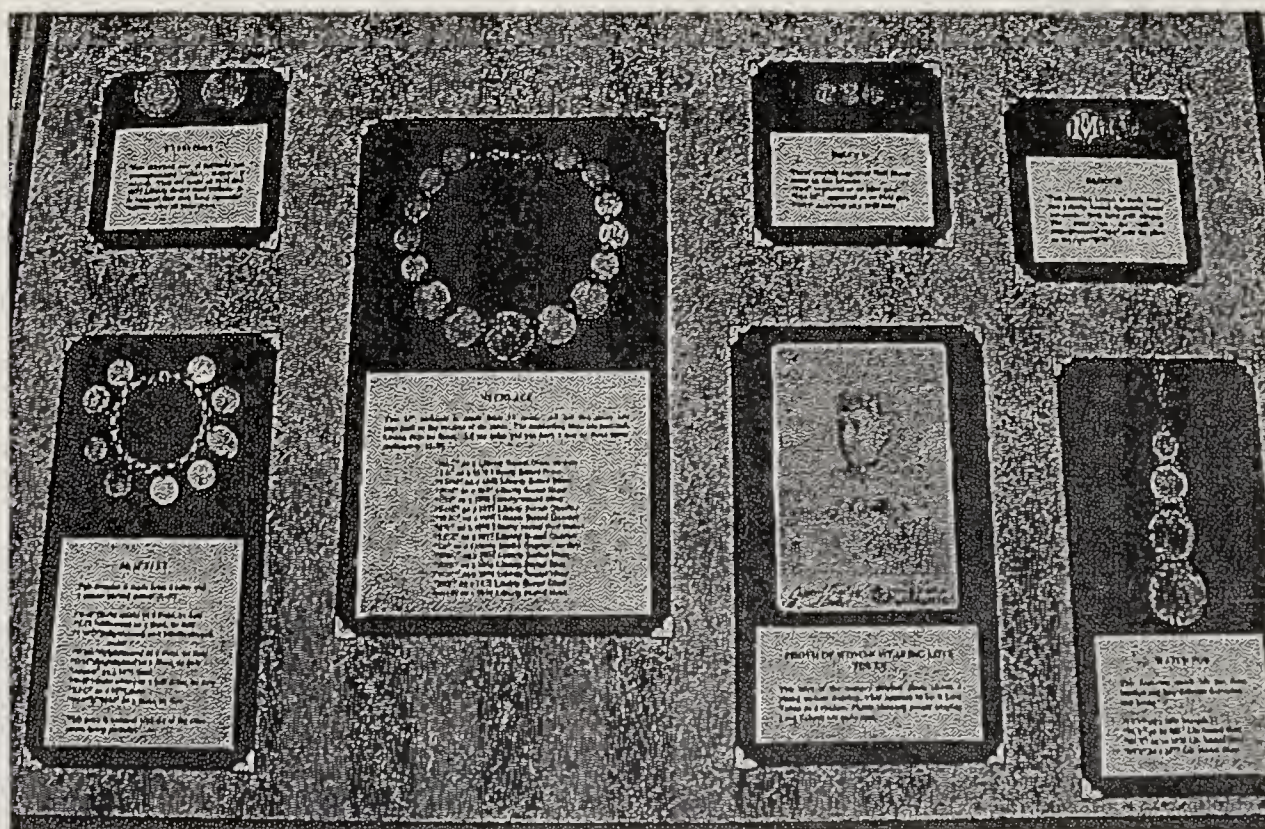
PG. 6-7 - EXHIBIT CASES  
CONTINUED

I exhibited my love tokens again at the Central States Numismatic Society's show in Cincinnati, OH, held from April 30 - May 3, 2009. My six-case exhibit took First Place in the token category.

I believe Sid asked me a while ago to write an article on my exhibit or take pictures of my exhibit for the Love Letter. This year I finally remembered to bring along a camera.

The exhibit of six cases shows U.S. type sets of single piece Love Tokens and also shows completed jewelry items. I hope it will encourage more LTS members to exhibit and provide more ideas on how to best show their collections. This collection represents 30 years of collecting Love Tokens. *(more photos on pages 6-7)*

*Tom Casper*



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rcn@ksu.edu

Ask Miss Love Token  
MISSLOVETOKEN@  
VERIZON.NET



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## General Funds

Balance As Of June 10, 2009 \$5,117.13

### Receipts

Member Dues \$ 12.50

New Members 12.50

### Total Receipts

\$25.00

\$25.00

### Subtotal

\$5,142.13

### Expenses

Ck# 1533 Robert Newhouse

Total LL #243 \$282.26

### Total Expenses

\$282.26

\$282.26

### Balance As Of

August 5, 2009

\$4,859.87

### Book sale Escrow Fund

\$610.00

### Balance Available to LTS

\$4,249.87

### Permanent Fund

Capital One Bank, Denham Springs, LA

\$1,418.00

### TOTAL Love Token Society Funds

\$5,667.87

Secretary/Treasurer  
Sid Gale

Total Membership: 164

2038 CSM Bruce Thomas  
HHC 1-137th AVN  
Joint Base Balard Iraq  
APO AE 09 391

2039 Russell Bauchman  
994 N. Colony Rd.  
PMB #342  
Wallingford, CT 06492

*Enjoy your summer...  
gardening, lawn care,  
house upkeep, etc.*



The March 31st issue of Numismatic News has an article about exhibit winners at the ANA show in Portland, OR. Simcha Kuritzky again won several awards. One of those was titled "A Zulu Love Token," which won top honors in Class 5, "The Arts." The article names four awards that Simcha won, including a tie for first place in "Peoples' Choice."

Ernie Turnes



By William D. Coe

On December 1, 2006, I received a phone call from Gary Glise, a semi-retired coin dealer and long-time acquaintance. Unfortunately, he had suffered a semi-debilitating stroke some five years ago. He used to do business as "Lilac City Tokens," referring to a nickname for the city of Rochester, NY.

He said, "I have a coin I think you would like." He described it as a well circulated 1899 Liberty Head / V nickel that someone had scratched across the face of Liberty the words "Found at World Fair 1933." After all, it was already 34 years old by that time.

He knew that I collect all items with "1933" on them because that is my birth year. Among my numismatic fraternity friends I am known as "Mr. 1933." There are available only four different, affordable, 1933 U.S. coins to collect. I will never be able to afford the 1933 \$10 and \$20 gold coins. After I got the four, I turned to collecting the many items made to commemorate the 1933 – 1934 Chicago Century of Progress World's Fair. That expanded my field of collection to a myriad of tokens, medals, stamps, and assorted miscellaneous fair souvenir items. I asked Gary how much he wanted for the coin. He said he wanted nothing and he wanted me to have it. I asked if I could pay the postage. He said he would cover that also. I was surprised and pleased that he would think of me. I anxiously looked forward to receiving the letter.

On December 5, I received his envelope. It was a standard size No. 10 white business envelope. Although I was in a hurry to get it open, I took time to notice the envelope itself. It had five assorted commemorative stamps on it. Plus, in the lower left corner there was a U.S. flag sticker over which he had written the words "Give thanks to a Vet." The address was handwritten in beautiful script. He had addressed it to "Mr. Wm. '1933' Coe." As my letter opener sliced through the paper, my heart skipped a beat with anxiety. Inside was a handwritten note in the same beautiful script and a brown corrugated merchandise mailer. Again, I stopped to read the 1 December 2006, dated note first. It said: *"Dear Mr. Coe, I thought you might like this for your 1933 coinage collection. I know this is a very humble offering to a gentleman of your caliber (please do excuse me), but if nothing it is probably one of a kind.; Thank you for your time.; Very truly yours, Gary"*

I do not like to rip into things, so I took my time pulling apart the sticky mailer. When it opened, there were three 2x2's in it. Not only did I find the coin, but Gary had included also two unused 3-cent U.S. postage commemorative stamps – a 1733 – 1933 General Oglethorpe and a Washington's Headquarters, Newburgh, NY 1783 – 1933. In themselves, they are nice additions to my 1933 collection.

My first inspection of the coin revealed to me during his phone call. I suddenly date was there. It read: Found at; World called to my wife that Gary had sent me and then again, to be sure I was seeing for joy. I was so excited! I suppose the lost coin at a place as large as the 1933 Fair is quite high. That someone it becomes much more unlikely at the increase substantially against such an item it to the reader to estimate the probability that that



that Gary had not repeated the entire inscription became quite nervous at what I saw. The full Fair; Sept. 29, 1933; by; E. H. Joped. I a very special coin. I looked at it again ... what I thought. I was literally jumping probability that someone could find a Chicago Century of Progress World's would inscribe a five-cent coin and keep depth of the depression era. The odds ever entering the collecting world. I will leave very item would, 73 years later, fall into the hands

*continued on bottom of pg.4*



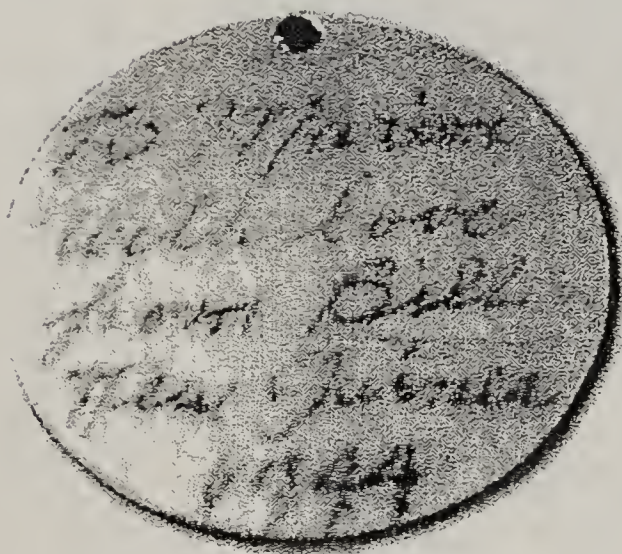


## WORLD WAR II "LOVE TOKEN" FOR SALE

I am a Numismatist here in Massachusetts. I came across this Sterling Silver Australian Florin/ Love Token in an antique shop in Great Barrington, MA with a hand full of foreign coins. It appears to me that a U.S. Soldier stationed at New Guinea made this Love Token for a sweet heart back here, state-side, during WWII.

It appears to me that the Soldier smoothed the obverse of the Florin, drilled a hole, then used possibly his sewing needle to poke the inscription "To Marion with love from Bill New Guinea 1944" in cursive on the mirrored obverse. Would you know what price I should value this token at, and if one of your members would be interested in purchasing it?

Donn Testa  
dctjr80@gmail.com



---

*continued from pg. 3*

of a person in Rochester, NY, who was born on that very day! Yes, my birthday is Friday, September 29, 1933. I was born at 8:30 P.M. Wouldn't it be interesting to know at what time of day the coin was found? For many years, I have searched old cancelled envelopes to try to find a postage stamp cancellation dated September 29, 1933. It is possible since it was on a Friday. But I have yet to find one. And here, without any expectation, a coin literally drops in my lap to fill a collecting void that I had never even imagined! I called Gary to thank him and to tell him of my finding. I could tell by his voice and his words that he was as overjoyed as I was to have been part of such a great satisfying coincidence. I will be forever grateful to Gary. Sadly, Gary E. Glise passed away at the age of 61 on Christmas Day. He left two sons, three grandchildren, and his dog, Murphy – and a very elated collector friend! I wonder if he had had a premonition of things to come. Is that fate, or what?

Printed with permission of Rochester Numismatic Association, June 2007 Issue

*(Bill and wife, Edith, joined Rochester Numismatic Association on June 10, 1969, making them 40 year members. Bill is an RNA Past President (1977), an RNA Honorary Life Member, the Chairman of the Membership Committee, the Chairman of the Medals Committee, and a 36-year stint as Treasurer of the Annual Coin Show Committee. He is also a life member of the American Numismatic Association and Token and Medal Society. He graduated from Ohio State University in 1956 with a MS degree in Chemical Engineering. Much of his collection centers around his birth year, 1933. He also collects Eastman Kodak Company items. He was a 35-year employee of the Eastman Kodak Company.)*



I have read with interest the stories showing photos of people wearing love tokens in the last two issues of the Love Letter. While it is nice to own a Love Token, it is wonderful to see how they were worn and the fancy dress of the Victorian period. I totally agree with Sid Gale and Carol Bastable about the scarcity of these photos. I, too, have collected these photos to complement my Love Token exhibit and have ended up with only a small handful after many years of diligent searching. All my photos, except for two are cabinet photos measuring 4 1/4" x 6 1/2". My examples only show women wearing Love Tokens, always on their neck. I have never found a photo of a man or child wearing a Love Token.

One of the difficulties is being unable to see the details on the jewelry piece. This is due to the distance the subject was from the camera. In many cases you can't tell if it is a round locket, an unengraved coin or an engraved Love Token.

I would like to share four photos from my collection. The Brounell photo depicts a woman wearing a choker collar. Attached to it is a single Love Token with the overlaid initials of H. G.

The Aldrich & Ludeke photo shows a woman wearing a similar collar with three, holed, monogrammed coins attached, which appear to be dimes.



The Wolcott photo is presumably husband and wife although he is not wearing a wedding band. The woman is wearing a choker collar with a looped, monogrammed coin which appears to be a dime. It is interesting to note that during this time period, the 1890s, the man got to sit while the woman had to stand. The man displays a pocket watch fob in his vest.

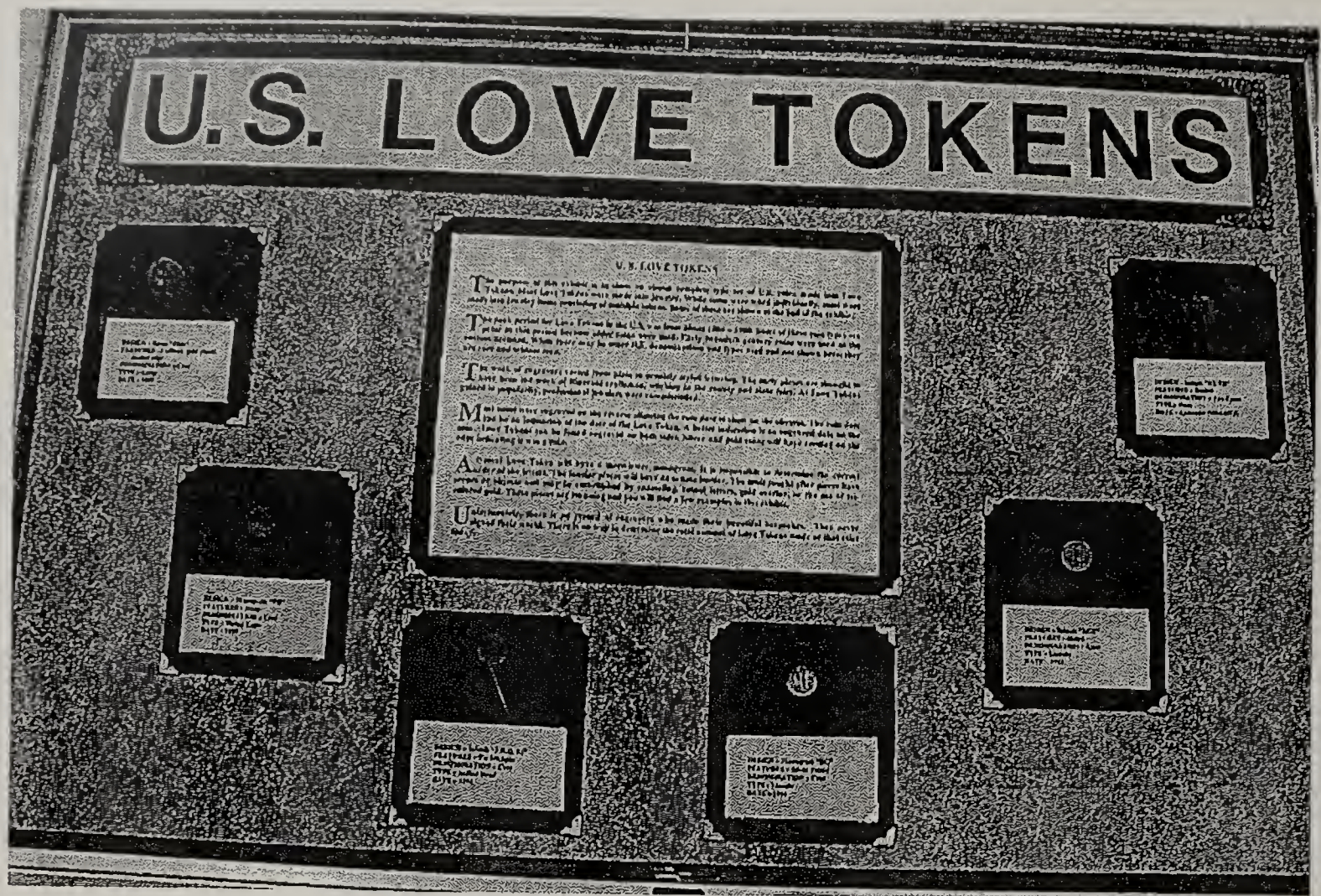
The Rosenquist photo is a woman wearing a love token at her neck. The coin is clearly engraved 1894 and attached with a chain to a stickpin inserted in her collar. On the back of the photo is written, "My father's attractive Rockford girlfriend." Unfortunately, none of the photos have any names on the back identifying who these women are.



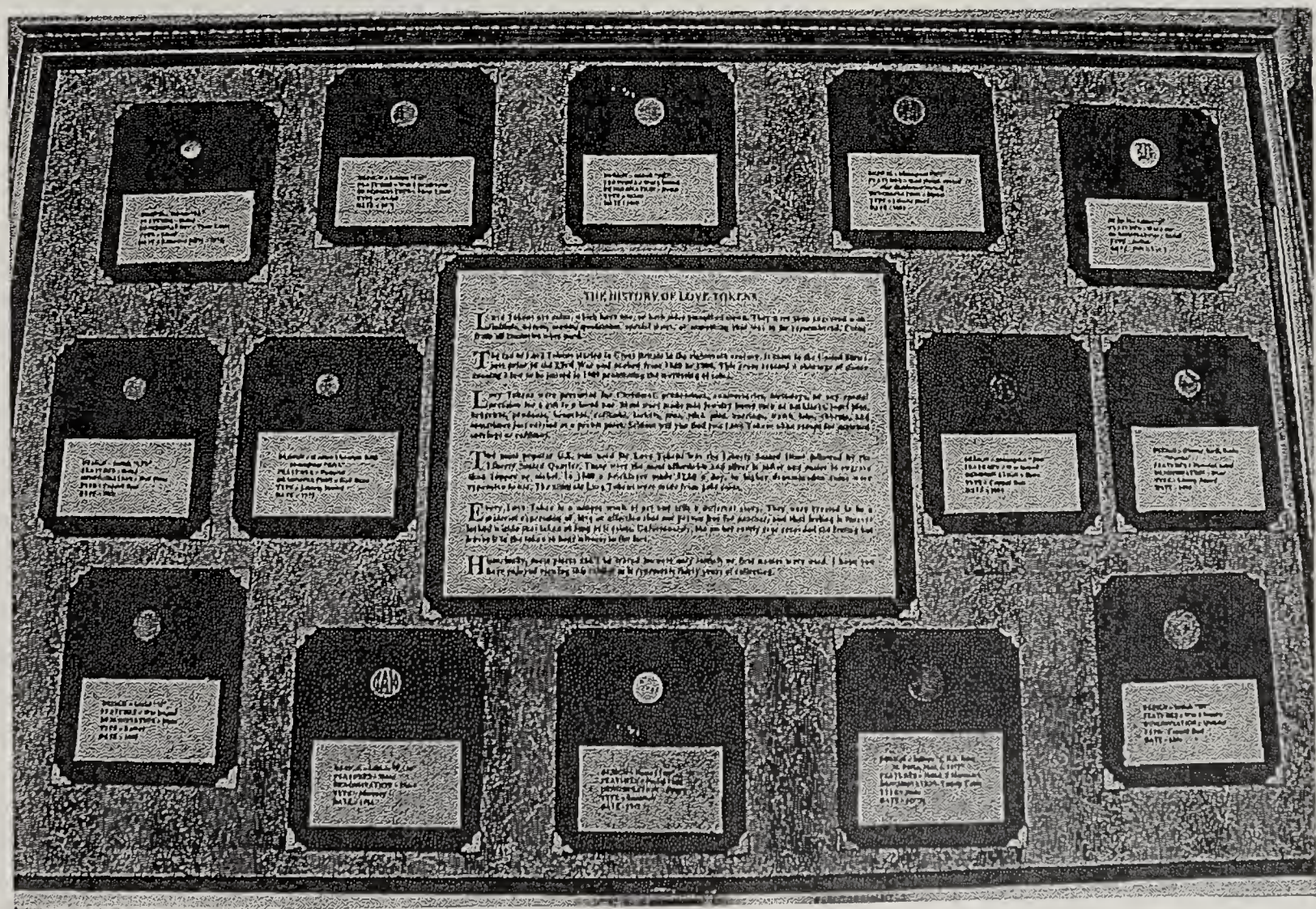
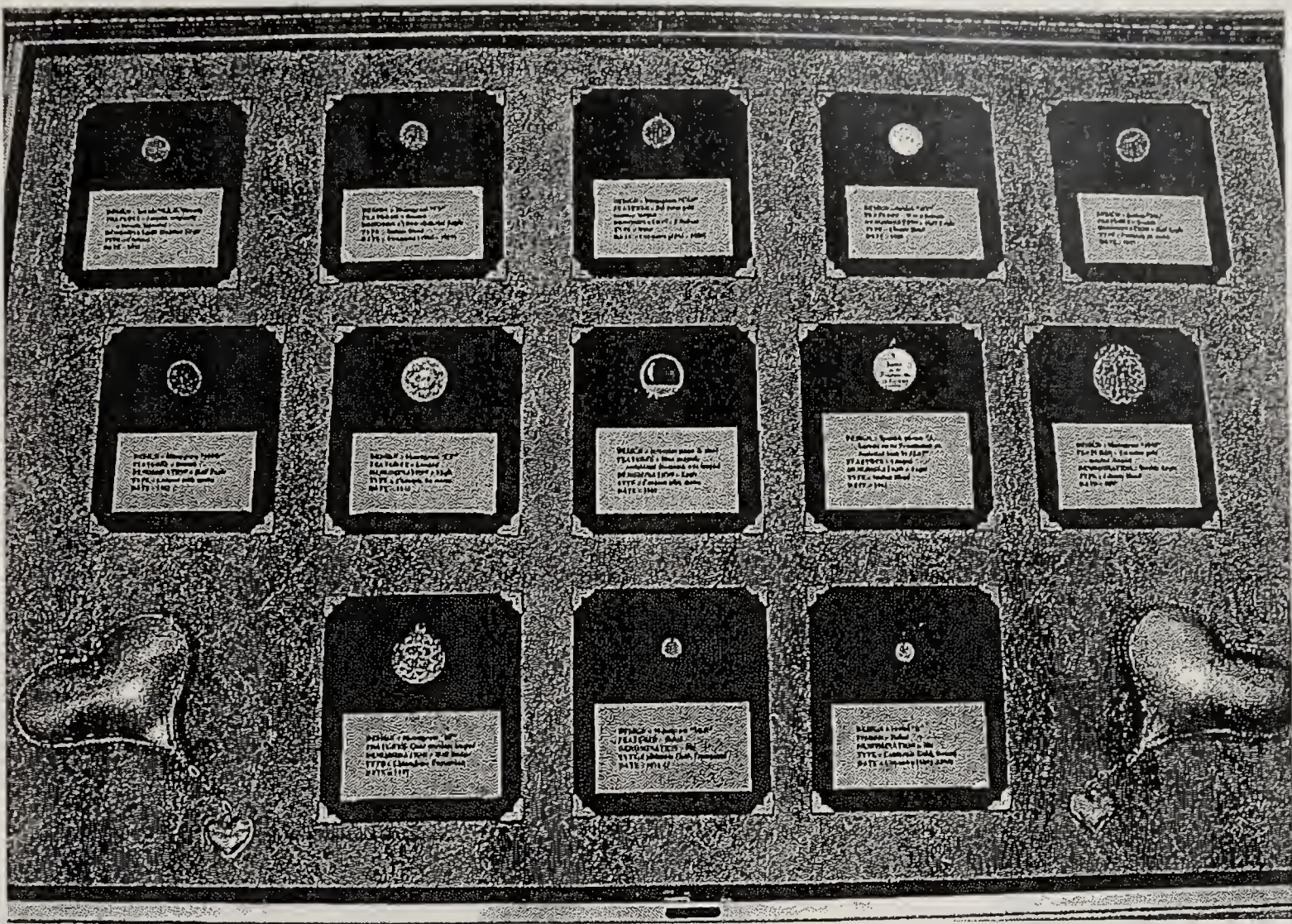
Regards, Tom Casper



# Tom Casper - Exhibit cases





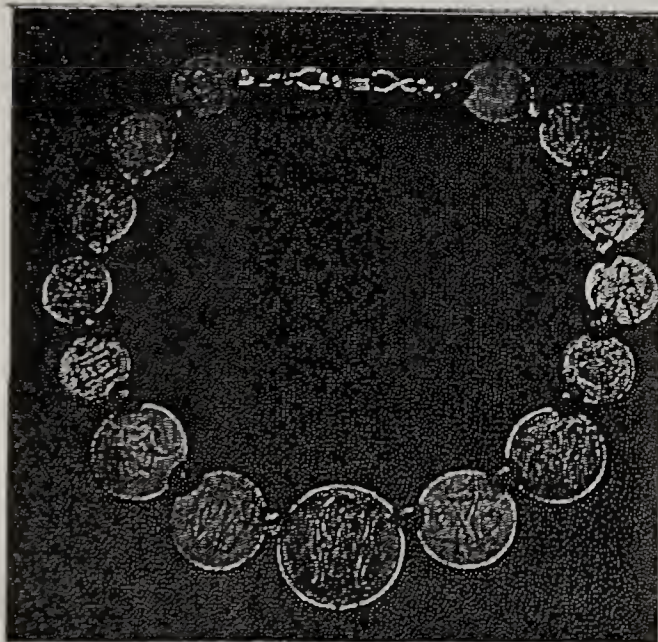




# Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse  
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.  
Manhattan, KS 66503

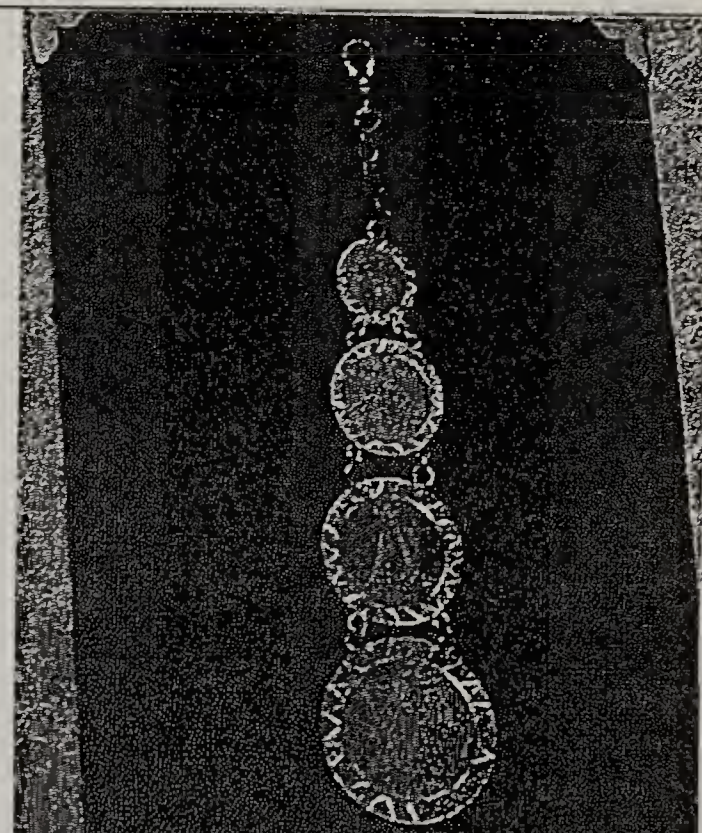


## NECKLAGE

This 15" necklace is made from 15 coins. All but two coins are engraved on the reverse of the coins. The connecting links are unusual, having caps on them. All the coins but one have a two or three-letter monogram. (L-R)

"NAC" on a Liberty Seated Dime, no date  
"LS" on a 1876 Liberty Seated Dime  
"CHIA" on a 1878 Liberty Seated Dime  
"FOJ" on a 1857 Liberty Seated Dime  
"GII" on a 1878 Liberty Seated Dime  
"EOZ" on a 1877 Liberty Seated Quarter  
"WJC" on a 1877 Liberty Seated Quarter  
"SW" on a 1870 Liberty Seated Half Dollar  
"LCZ" on a 1877 Liberty Seated Quarter  
"GI" on a Liberty Seated Quarter, no date  
"WSC" on a 1875 Liberty Seated Dime  
"DRZ" on a 1876 Liberty Seated Dime  
"WJC" on a 1876 Liberty Seated Dime  
"SKP" on a 1878 Liberty Seated Dime  
(Blank) on a 1853 Liberty Seated Dime

Closeup of examples  
from Tom Casper's  
Exhibit cases



## WATCH FOB

This four-coin watch fob has fancy borders and four different denomination coins.

"TIA" on a 1878 Morgan \$1  
"FCV" on an 1877 Lib. Seated Half  
"RCV" on an 1878 Lib. Seated Quar.  
"SYS" on a 1877 Lib. Seated Dime



# Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter



## INSIDE

PG. 2 - FINANCIAL  
REPORT &  
MEMBERSHIP

PG. 3 - MISS LOVE TOKEN

PG. 4-5 - MISS LOVE  
TOKEN CONT.

PG. 6-7 - COIN SALE

A love token made from an 1868 Shield nickel.

I bid on this coin, “underbid” as it turns out - the coin sold for \$300 on Stack’s auctions. A well presented engraved scene, on the reverse, of a gentleman presenting a young maiden with a bouquet of flowers. The letters LAH? are engraved above them. The entire scene is framed by a nicely done notched edge. The obverse has an “H” cut into it, perhaps as someone’s initial. This kind of love token is rarely seen on this host coin and should be taken into account when formulating a bid.

*Thomas Casper*



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Ask Miss Love Token  
[MISSLOVETOKEN@VERIZON.NET](mailto:MISSLOVETOKEN@VERIZON.NET)



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

General Funds			
Balance As Of	August 5, 2009		\$4,859.87
Receipts			
	Member Dues	\$ 50.00	
	New Members	\$ 25.00	
Total Receipts		\$75.00	\$75.00
Subtotal			\$4,934.87
Expenses			
	Ck# 1534 Robert Newhouse		
	Kinko's	\$136.40	
	Graphics	\$ 75.00	
	Stamps	\$ 88.00	
	Misc.	\$ 7.85	
	Total LL #244	\$307.25	
	Ck# 1535 ANA Dues	\$ 75.00	
Total Expenses		\$382.25	\$382.25
Balance As Of	October 5, 2009		\$4,552.62
Book sale Escrow Fund			<u>-\$610.00</u>
Balance Available to LTS			\$3,942.62
Permanent Fund	Capital One Bank, Denham Springs, LA		\$1,418.00
<b>TOTAL Love Token Society Funds</b>			<b>\$5,360.62</b>
Secretary/Treasurer			
Sid Gale			

Total Membership: 164

2040 Robin Sisler  
6140 Mach 1 Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

2041 William Lonergan  
3054 N Peoria Ave  
Simi Valley, CA 93063

## ANA CONVENTION NEWS

(IN LOS ANGELES):

CLASS 7 -

"ENGRAVED COINS-LOVE TOKEN SOCIETY"

WINNERS:

1ST -STEVE MIDDLETON FOR  
"ENGRAVED COLUMBIAN HALVES"  
2ND - SIMCHA KURITZKY FOR  
"A ZULU LOVE TOKEN"







Dear Love Token Society Members,

This month the question is for you. What did you do on your summer vacation? Some of you may have gone to the ANA show in August. Others may have hunted for treasures closer to home. Write to us with any of your special finds or stories.

### What I Did for My Summer Vacation

This summer, I was in the mountains of North Carolina and did some antiquing. One day-trip brought me to an antique show in Cashiers, North Carolina. While I did not find any love tokens, I did find something perhaps more interesting, a second generation hand-engraver.

The engraver, Tim S. Buchanan, shared with me that his engravings are truly hand done, he gouges and pushes using hand gravers. There are few hand engravers in the world

today and of them, most are taught using power assist tools like the Gravermax. Then, there are those others that just push the metal with a diamond stylus, while tracing patterns and call it hand-engraved. Most love token collectors know that the use of a stylus does not qualify as being hand-engraved, it only pushes the metal and creates a raised burr.

Tim Buchanan started engraving in 1967 and has been doing so for 42 years. His father, James D. Buchanan, started in 1934 and retired after 60 years at the age of 76. The father was recognized for creating new lettering styles and won national awards.

The engraving style sheet(s) appearing here are representative of different lettering fonts and monograms. This is just the start because Buchanan says, "If you have a picture or an image, I can engrave it." He specializes in coats-of-arms, but his other themes also include company logos, signatures, pets, children's silhouettes, and landscapes. Take the time to visit his website at:

[www.TSBuchanan.com](http://www.TSBuchanan.com).

Sincerely,  
Miss Love Token

AKS MISS LOVE TOKEN



**T. S. BUCHANAN**

6237 Karenstone Drive ~ Charlotte, NC 28215 ~ 704.568.3737 ~ Fax 704.536.9622  
[www.TSBuchanan.com](http://www.TSBuchanan.com)

see pages 4 & 5 for more



A B C D E  
SCRIPT 600

G. F. Bartle.  
Lucie N. Snyder.  
601  
602

F G H I J K  
600

L M N O P Q  
VERTICAL SCRIPT 603

Ray C. Wickert.  
604

R S T U V W X Y Z  
VERTICAL SCRIPT 603

A B C D E  
SHADED OLD ENGLISH 605

Rosalind  
J. R. S.  
635  
606

F G H I J K  
605

M N O P Q R S  
OLD ENGLISH 608

San Francisco, Calif.  
607

T U V W X Y Z  
608

A B C D E F G H  
"BLACKSTONE" 610

N. G. R.  
N. H. Weathersby.  
609  
611

I J K L M O R S T  
"BLACKSTONE"

A B C D E  
SHADED "COLUMBIA TEXT" 612

N W Y  
613

F G H I J K  
"COLUMBIA TEXT."

M O P Q R S T W  
COLUMBIA TEXT 614

N. T. WILSON  
R. W. S.  
618  
625

A B C D E F G H I J  
CAPPED BLOCK 616

A B C D E F T  
SHADED ROMAN. 617

B. W. SOUTRY.  
621

G H I J K L M S  
ROMAN 619

G H I J K L M N O P Q R  
"GOTHIC" (OR PLAIN BLOCK) 620

V. R. HASTING.  
622

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N  
(EGYPTIAN) BLOCK 623

A B C D E F U  
SHADED BLOCK. 624

K. L. M.  
ROCHESTER, N. Y.  
615  
626

G H I J K L N  
(ROMAN) BLOCK. 627

A B C D E F G  
STUB CIPHER 628

B. M. G.  
633

H J K L M O  
IMITATION JAPANESE 631

A B C D E  
ORNAMENTAL CIPHERS. 632

R. S. T. C. S. R.  
629 630  
JOHN M. BERGLING.  
636

H J K L M  
LEAF BLOCK. 634

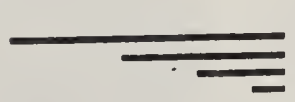
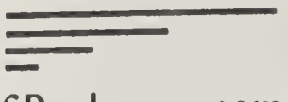
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*TSB*



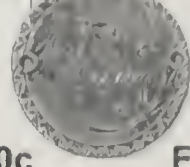




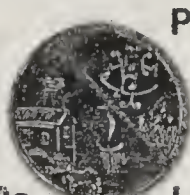
















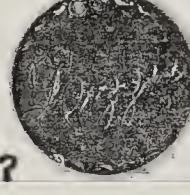












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6237 Karenstone Drive ♦ Charlotte, NC 28215 ♦ Tim@TSBuchanan.com  
 Fax 704.536.9622 ♦ www.TSBuchanan.com ♦ 704.568.3737



J-1  H Dime <1853> \$45.00	J-2  H Dime 1857 \$10.00	J-3  1891 Can5c \$30.00	J-4  Can 5c obverse \$9.00	J-5  5c 1872 \$35.00	J-6  Can 5c obverse \$8.00
J-7  10c 1885 \$35.00	J-8  10c 1877 \$12.00	J-9  10c 1887 \$9.00	J-10  10c 1876 \$12.00	J-11  Can 10c obverse \$25.00	J-12  10c 1845 \$9.00
J-13  10c 1892 \$10.00	J-14  GB 6p obverse \$12.00	J-15  10c <1874> \$9.00	J-16  10c 1876 \$8.00	J-17  Can 10c obverse \$18.00	J-18  10c 2sides \$25.00
J-19  Ind1c reverse \$45.00	J-20  Ind1c 1890 \$25.00	J-21  3silver 1858 \$25.00	J-22  3nickel 1869 \$25.00	J-23  10c 2side \$15.00	J-24  10c 1883 \$20.00
J-25  10cHighGrade 1876 \$20.00	J-26  10c 1877 \$20.00	J-27  Can 10c obverse \$12.00	J-28  10c 1875 \$12.00	J-29  10c 1884 \$12.00	J-30  10c 1885 \$20.00
J-31  10c 1885 \$20.00	J-32  Can10c 1887 \$18.00	J-33  10c 1886 \$10.00	J-34  10c 1857 \$12.00	J-35  10c 1883 \$25.00	J-36  10c 1882 \$15.00
J-37  Can10cHighGrade obverse \$20.00	J-38  Can 10c obverse \$15.00	J-39  10c 1883 \$12.00	J-40  10c blank \$12.00	J-41  Can 10c obverse \$15.00	J-42  10c 1885 \$15.00
J-43  25c 1876 \$20.00	J-44  Can 25c obverse \$20.00	J-45  Can 25c obverse \$25.00	J-46  Can25c obverse \$15.00	J-47  Can25c obverse \$25.00	J-48  Shield5c obverse \$25.00



J-1 Design  Can 5c 1874H \$15.00	J-2 Design R?  5c <1854> \$15.00	J-3 Jorgen  Swe10 obverse \$15.00	J-4 Pontus  Swe10 obverse \$15.00	J-5 K of P 3 Rings  GB 3p 1860 \$25.00	J-6 Mama  10c 1891 Flowers 15.00
J-7 LLL  10c 1877 \$12.50	J-8 ST  10c 1888 \$8.00	J-9 CCR 9.6.03  GB 6p obverse \$10.00	J-10 K of P  GB 6p obverse \$25.00	J-11 FCJ Picture  10c 1884 Luster \$35.00	J-12 JWB  10c reverse \$8.00
J-13 KB  10c 1877 \$8.00	J-14 WJ  10c 1883 \$8.00	J-15 WMN  10c reverse \$8.00	J-16 HJ  10c 1887 \$8.00	J-17 Meda  10c 1884 \$15.00	J-18 E  10c 1876 \$9.00
J-19 FA  Can 10c obverse \$15.00	J-20 J  10c <1853> \$9.00	J-21 M  10c 1878 \$9.00	J-22 WR  10c 1876 \$9.00	J-23 EJH  10c 1884 \$9.00	J-24 RCG  10c 1875 \$9.00
J-25 KAL Design  10c 1888 \$9.00	J-26 CPS  10c <1874> \$12.50	J-27 JFH  10c 1876 \$12.50	J-28 WE  10c 1877 \$12.50	J-29 Papa  10c 1892 \$15.00	J-30 WH  10c 1885 \$12.50
J-31 Millie  10c 1886 \$20.00	J-32 AHR  10c <1853> \$12.50	J-33 Lizzie SRE  10c? 1872 \$20.00	J-34 Lillie  10c 1886 \$12.50	J-35 BML  10c 1883 \$12.50	J-36 IWM  10c 1882 \$12.50
J-37 AD Shield  25c <1854> \$20.00	J-38 MF Belt  25c reverse \$45.00	J-39 Design  25c <1854> \$15.00	J-40 RF?  France obverse \$18.00	J-41 SE  10c 1883 \$12.50	J-42 IPD  10c 1882 \$12.50
J-43 VJB  10c 1884 \$15.00	J-44 LC  10c 1883 \$15.00	J-45 JOP  10c 1875 \$15.00	J-46 FZJ  5c 1883 \$35.00	J-47 KJ  5c 1883 \$30.00	J-48 OE  10c 1884 Full Design \$20.00



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Love  
Love Token Society Newsletter  
Letter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse  
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.  
Manhattan, KS 66503

---

## COIN SALES

### Ordering Love Tokens

Please make checks payable to:

David Jerdee  
2631 Westview Lane NW  
Rochester, MN 55901  
email: omaha1898@peoplepc.com  
507-288-2387

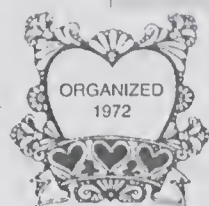
In remitting, please do not forget  
to include the postage as follows:

#### Orders

up to \$ 50 - add \$3.85  
up to \$100 - add \$4.50  
up to \$150 - add \$5.00  
up to \$200 - add \$6.00  
up to \$300 - add \$7.50  
up to \$400 - add \$8.75  
OVER \$400 - add \$10.25

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December 2009

No. 246

# Love Letter

Love Token Society Newsletter

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COINS, PART 1

### UK Group Hears About Love Tokens

Ernie Turnes

In early October I received a call from a friend from church asking if I would give a talk on coins to a group to which she and her husband belong. They are both from England and are members of a club called "The U.K. Connection", made up of people here in the Myrtle Beach area who are from one of the UK nations. I accepted the invitation and later called her back and suggested that the talk be on love tokens, given that I have little knowledge of the few coins I own from England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. I explained the connection of love tokens and the United Kingdom, as documented in Lloyd Entenmann's book, Love Tokens as Engraved Coins.

That luncheon talk was in early November and 29 members attended. I feel that the discussion was pretty well received, as several people asked questions and no one seemed to fall asleep! I told them at the beginning of the talk (with a smile) that my goals were (1) to explain love tokens and create some interest, (2) answer questions and (3) make at least one of them a LT collector.

My "presentation" was an informal discussion of the story of love tokens. I circulated several examples, gave some information about each one (including some research on one with a complete name and full mailing address), and showed Lloyd's book, a copy of the "Love Letter" and some text from a love token exhibit that I had made several years ago. During the discussion one lady said that she has an engraved Morgan dollar with information about a relative's wedding anniversary. I told her that that qualifies her as a love token collector!

I hope that the talk will lead to some additional interest in our hobby.

P.S. A few days later I received a call from a lady who had heard my talk. She asked me to speak to another group, "The Friendly Seniors". About 40 men and women attended that talk in mid-November. It seemed to go well, as I received several questions. One of the comments about love tokens was "I had never heard of such a thing!"

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Ask Miss Love Token  
MISSLOVETOKEN@  
VERIZON.NET



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

General Funds			
Balance As Of	October 5, 2009		\$4,552.62
Receipts			
	Member Dues	\$0.00	
Total Receipts		\$0.00	
	Subtotal		\$4,552.62
Expenses			
	Ck# 1536 Robert Newhouse		
	Kinko's	\$147.94	
	Graphics	75.00	
	Stamps	88.00	
	Misc Postage	<u>3.72</u>	
	Total LL #245	\$314.66	
	Ck# 1537 FUN Dues	<u>\$15.00</u>	
Total Expenses		\$329.66	\$329.66
Balance As Of	December 6, 2009		\$4,222.96
Book sale Escrow Fund			<u>-\$610.00</u>
Balance Available to LTS			\$3,612.96
Permanent Fund	Capital One Bank, Denham Springs, LA		\$1,418.00
TOTAL Love Token Society Funds			\$5,030.96
Membership	164		
			Secretary/Treasurer Sid Gale

## Notes From The Secretary / Treasurer

### Annual Dues

Annual Dues are due January 1, 2010. I request you send your \$12.50 dues when you receive this Newsletter. Dues for many of you have already been paid. If you are not sure about yours call 225-664-0718 or email me at [sidgale@cox.net](mailto:sidgale@cox.net). Send payment to: Sid Gale, P.O. Box 2351, Denham Springs, La. 70727. Thank you – it saves a lot of time and postage.

### FUN Show – Orlando Florida

The FUN show dates are January 7<sup>th</sup> – January 10<sup>th</sup>. The location is:

Linda Chapin Theatre – Orange County Convention Center  
9800 International Drive  
Orlando, Florida 32821

FUN is providing a meeting room for LTS, on Friday afternoon, January 8<sup>th</sup> 2010. Look up the meeting room and time in the show directory.

### Books For Sale

I still have some of Lloyd Entenmann's book, "Love Tokens as Engraved Coins" for sale. One book will be made available to current members of the Love Token Society at a special price - \$34.00 postpaid. Please call 225-664-0718 to order one.





## CHRISTMAS – A TIME FOR GIVING

By Tom Casper



CHRISTMAS - A TIME FOR GIVING

Christmas is the most popular holiday of the year. Ethnic traditions going back many years are celebrated by families. It is a time for decorating the house, cutting a Christmas tree, decorating it, baking cookies, stollen and fruit cake. It is a time to enjoy our families and be with the people we love. We send cards to the people we don't see often. And we exchange gifts with our family and our closest friends.

This important day warrants the best gifts, ones that are personal and those that are long remembered. Jewelry items have always been popular on this special day. When a jewelry item is engraved it becomes a very romantic gift and a keepsake of a lifetime.

During the Love Token craze, Christmas appears to be a popular time to give these as gifts. While I have not tried to collect Christmas Love Tokens, I have found four of these pieces in my collection. The first piece is an 1839 U.S. Half Dime, with a loop removed, and has plain engraving on the reverse of "Dec. 25, 1900." The second piece is a looped U.S. \$2½ Indian gold piece and is engraved on the obverse, "J.M.G. Dec. 25, 1922." The engraving, as well as the loop, is well worn, indicating many years of wear. The third piece is a U.S. \$10 gold coin, looped and engraved on both sides. One side has gold overlay of two fancy and crossed T's. The other side is ornately engraved "Merry Xmas (18)90."



The fourth piece is most unusual. The coin is attached to a man's watch chain commonly worn on a vest of the period. The coin is a looped, U.S. 1897 Liberty Nickel. The piece is reeded and gold plated to make it look like a \$5 Liberty Head gold piece. Usually an 1883 Liberty Head nickel was used to make these Racketeer Nickels. The nickel is cutout around the Liberty Head and the 13 stars. The reverse is smoothed down and engraved with a monogram of "DM" and the word "Xmas" below. It is very unusual to have a Love Token with added reeding, gold plated, cutout as well as engraved. This piece was probably given as a gift in the year the coin. Attached are scans of the obv. and rev. of the third and fourth Christmas Love Tokens.





## A \$1,384 LOVE TOKEN

Ernie Turnes



Every day I check the love tokens on eBay. On November 19 a \$20 Liberty Head gold coin was listed with a starting bid of \$1.00. This double eagle was not shaved smooth on one side as is usually the case with U.S. love tokens. Instead the overlapping initials CMZ were inscribed over Ms. Liberty's face. The auction ended on November 29 with 16 bids and a "hammer price" of \$1,384. It would be interesting to know someone from our club was the seller or the buyer or if both were.

*I found a special love token and purchased it because it is unusual and kind of unique to my collection. It is an elongated coin, possibly a silver dime made into a love token. On the obverse it says U.S. Treasury Dept Oct 12, 1881 and on the reverse it has what appears to be the letters R, E, and F. It is reeded on the edge.*

*It is the only elongated love token I have ever seen. I thought I would share this with the membership. Perhaps others have elongated love tokens in their collection!*

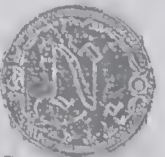


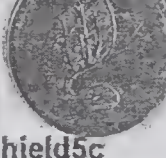
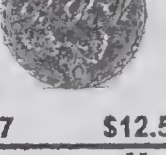

Best regards,  
George A. Bilodeau, Jr.

*Looking for love tokens on Puerto Rican coins (provincial coins dated 1895-96, five denominations: 5, 10, 20, 40 cents and the peso). Mostly are pieces made by US soldiers on the island during the Spanish American war of 1898.*

Jorge L. Crespo Armáiz ac\_jcrespo@suagm.edu

J-18  10c 1876 \$9.00	EJ-19  Can 10c obverse \$15.00 1876	FAJ-22  10c 1876 \$9.00	WR  10c 1888 \$9.00	J-25  Design 1888 \$9.00	KAL  10c <1874> \$12.50	J-26  10c 1876 \$12.50	CPS  10c 1876 \$12.50	J-27  10c 1876 \$12.50	JFH  10c 1876 \$12.50		
J-28  10c 1877 \$12.50	WE  10c 1885 \$12.50	J-30  10c 1885 \$12.50	WH  10c 1886 \$20.00	J-31  10c 1886 \$20.00	Millie  10c <1853> \$12.50	J-32  10c <1853> \$12.50	AHR  10c? \$20.00	J-33  10c? \$20.00	Lizzie SRE \$20.00	J-34  10c 1872 \$20.00	Lillie  10c 1872 \$20.00
J-35  10c 1886 \$12.50	BML  10c 1883 \$12.50	J-36  10c 1883 \$12.50	IWM  25c reverse \$45.00	J-38  25c reverse \$45.00	MF Belt \$45.00	J-39  25c <1854> \$15.00	Design  \$15.00	J-40  France obverse \$18.00	RF?  \$18.00	J-41  10c 1883 \$12.50	SE  \$12.50
J-42  10c 1882 \$12.50	IPD  10c 1884 \$15.00	J-43  10c 1884 \$15.00	VJB  10c 1883 \$15.00	J-44  10c 1883 \$15.00	LC  10c 1875 \$15.00	J-45  10c 1875 \$15.00	JOP  5c 1883 \$35.00	J-46  5c 1883 \$35.00	FZJ  5c 1883 \$35.00	J-47  5c 1883 \$30.00	KJ  \$30.00



J-2  H Dime 1857	NJ-4  Can 5c obverse	PHA  Can 5c obverse	J-6  Can 5c obverse	J-7  Sailing SAS 1885	J-9  10c 1887	J-11  Can 10c obverse
J-13  10c 1892	BFT  GB 6p obverse	J-14  10c <1874>	EJ-15  DHM 1876	J-16  PM? 1876	J-17  Can 10c obverse	J-18  10c 2sides
J-21  3silver 1858	FF?  3nickel 1869	J-22  SAD 1869	J-23  BCF 1883	J-24  Elber 1883	J-25  PPB 1876	J-26  10c 1877
J-28  10c 1875	TJ-32  Can 10c 1887	RB Full Face  10c 1857	J-34  GAN 1857	J-37  Can 10c High Grade obverse	J-38  Can 10c obverse	J-39  10c 1883
I-42  10c 1885	MFJ-44  Can 25c obverse	GGJ-45  Can 25c obverse	TomJ-46  Can 25c obverse	FC?J-47  Can 25c obverse	TAPJ-48  Shield 5c obverse	Hebru Letter
J-1  Can 5c 1874H	J-2  5c <1854>	J-3  Swe10 obverse	J-4  Swe10 obverse	J-5  GB 3p 1860	J-7  10c 1877	LLL
J-9  GB 6p obverse	J-12  10c reverse	J-14  10c 1883	J-15  10c reverse	J-16  10c 1887	J-17  10c 1884	Meda

J-48  10c 1884	OE Full Design \$20.00
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(See last issue for clearer images)

Seller: David Jerdee, 2631 Westview Lane NW Rochester, MN 55901  
omaha1898@peoplepc.com 507-288-2387



"Love Tokens" from Puerto Rico  
Interesting pieces from our Exonumia  
(this article was translated verbatim from Spanish to  
English, with respect to the author was not edited)

By  
Jorge L. Crespo Armaiz



The unexpected and heartfelt loss of our well-recognized partner, Efrain Archilla-Diaz last year, had a consequential natural and inevitable availability in the market of collectors – as well as the patio and the exterior – from his magnificent and impressive numismatic materials of collection from Puerto Rico. Without doubt the Archilla-Diaz collection during its time was one of the most important, broad, most varied and complete from those specialties during our monitory development. Rail finance, business cards, watermarked coins or an override with fluerr-de-lis, patterned coins (in copper and nickel), medals (nineteenth or modern, in all metals), casino chips, paper money, the extremely rare coins of proclamation, in others, these are some of the many pieces that, in great quantity and quality, formed the numismatic cabinet from our ex-president.

Efrain used to collect everything related to our monetary history. "Exonumia" material is not necessarily of great interest to other people. He had a great collection of "*elongados*," workers chips, police badges, encased cents, and even a great selection of jewelry and other artifacts made by the use of Puerto Rico's provincial coins ("*yuntas*," belt buckles, buttons, arras, key chains, to mention a few). Inside this strange and varied field of the interesting world of "*exonumia*," I wish that through this short article be able to share with the reader a handful of pieces that Efrain had been able to acquire very rare and unknown by the local collectors: the "love tokens" confectioned by Puerto Rican coins.

We should start, of course, with the definition of such peculiar term: "love tokens." In simple terms, means altered coins (mutilated, some would said), which surface is used to engrave monograms, messages or love messages. In serious terms, a genuine "love token" is used to engrave a small love message to a loved one, which receives the coin as a gift or a favor. However, in this field any circular coin with any type of engraving such as initials or monograms (most common), birth dates, passing dates, weddings and other memorable events, proper names and even pictoric engravings are collected such as (flowers, birds and landscapes).

The practice of engraving "love tokens" in the United States (since is also done in other





countries), probably started around the time of the North American Civil War, XIX century, and it's popularity started decaying towards the ending of the period, primarily with the introduction of postal cards. Generally the most utilized coins were the "Seated Liberty" variety in the 10 cents denomination although, pieces in bigger denominations exist (the bigger the denomination the more rare and expensive this piece tend to be). Silver coins were preferred over nickel for its malleability. We need to highlight, that the engraving was handmade by some jeweler, goldsmith or by the same person, for that reason they are very personal and intimate objects. For that reason, pieces that are machine engraved are not considered "love tokens" properly talking. We have reproduced some examples of "love tokens," all on North American coins.


*(continued in our next issue)*



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Love  
Love Token Society Newsletter  
Letter

Dr. Robert C. Newhouse  
5840 Tuttle Cove Rd.  
Manhattan, KS 66503



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Happy

Holidays

**Ordering Love Tokens**

Please make checks payable to:

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email: [omaha1898@peoplepc.com](mailto:omaha1898@peoplepc.com)

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OVER \$400 - add \$10.25



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